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SHEVCHENKO DISAPPEARANCE BLAMED ON U.S. SPECIAL SERVICES

LD121240Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1206 GMT 12 Apr 78 LD

["Provocations by American Special Services"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, 12 April--As reported by the permanent mission of the USSR at the United Nations, the circumstances of the recent disappearance of A. N. Shevchenko, a Soviet citizen who worked in the UN Secretariat, indicate that this is a deliberate provocation organized by American special services. The propaganda campaign being conducted in the American press over the Schevchenko case has the clear aim of covering up the unseemly activities of these special services.

DOMOGATSKIKH COVERS SAIT, MENGISTU VISIT, WESTERN ECONOMY

LD111613Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Mikhail Domogatskikh review: "International Week"]

[Text] The tour of Siberian and Far Eastern regions by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his speeches on questions of economic development, the effectiveness of the use of capital investments, the timely commissioning of industrial projects and the speediest startup of production capacities have aroused great interest in the world press. A broad response was elicited by his speech in Vladivostok on very important international problems.

Together with the Hungarian people the people of the socialist community countries celebrated the 33d anniversary of Hungary's liberation from the fascist yoke by the Soviet Army and its splendid achievements in building a new life.

The people of the USSR and Finland solemnly celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Treaty.

The 11th Congress of the Communist Party of India concluded its work in the Indian city of Bhatinda after discussing urgent socioeconomic problems and questions of the correct combination of Marxist-Leninist theory with the party's daily practical work among the masses.

U.S. President J. Carter completed his trip to Venezuela, Brazil, Nigeria and Liberia, which, even in the opinion of U.S. commentators, did not justify Washington's hopes to establish "new relations with 'third world' states."

Talks took place among the leaders of the EC countries in Copenhagen, the Danish capital. Taking into account the problems of the crisis, inflation and unemployment, which are common to the whole of the "Nine," the Western press called the talks a "dreary summit meeting."

Mass public demonstrations against neutron weapons continued in Europe and on other continents.

Most Important Task of the Present Day

The tasks of economic and social development and of the steady rise in the living standards of the Soviet people outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress are imposing. [paragraph continues]

Our party links their resolution with the further strengthening of world peace. All progressive mankind perceives Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech to the sailors of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet as graphic new testimony to the land of the soviets' love of peace and to the CPSU's indefatigable efforts aimed at delivering the people from the threat of thermonuclear war and insuring their peaceful future.

There is now no more important task than that of achieving real disarmament. To halt the arms race and insure the elimination of thermonuclear catastrophe--this is the chief problem confronting mankind. To the west and east of our borders there are forces interested in the arms race and in stoking an atmosphere of fear and hostility, which sow doubts about the possibility of taking practical steps for arms limitation and disarmament. Unfortunately the U.S. administration displays indecision and inconsistency and looks to those circles which have been against an agreement on limiting strategic offensive arms from the beginning, and which are doing everything to frustrate it and to free themselves for an unrestrained nuclear arms race. These are the reasons that there is a delay over completing the work on this agreement. Meanwhile, further delay and all sorts of maneuvers over the talks will only result in the loss of the very possibility of concluding the agreement, and consequently also the possibility of a subsequent transition to more far-reaching steps to limit and reduce strategic arms.

Speeches by leaders of Western countries contain many words in favor of disarmament. But the people await concrete deeds, particularly as new types of weapons of mass destruction are sometimes prepared under cover of words, being passed off as "defensive," and the world is pushed toward new spirals of the arms race.

The United States and certain other countries, having come up against the mass protest movement against the plans to create and deploy neutron weapons in Europe, are trying to maneuver. A fresh example of this is the stand taken by U.S. President J. Carter, who, on the one hand, has declared that he has "decided to postpone production of enhanced radiation weapons" while, on the other hand, leaving open the possibility of their use and issuing instructions for the modernization of missiles and shells to take "enhanced radiation warhead elements." It is becoming increasingly clear that it is not possible to resolve the problem through maneuvers and ambiguous "postponements" but only on the basis of the honest and specific proposal from the USSR and the other socialist countries on the mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons.

"For its part," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev declared, "the Soviet Union will continue its efforts to achieve steady progress along the path of military detente and the transition to real disarmament. This is our firm policy, and we will implement it unswervingly."

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech has elicited a tremendous international response. The press and radio in many countries note the profoundly reasoned arguments in favor of peace, detente, talks and specific measures for arms reduction and disarmament. Newspapers in the countries of socialism emphasize that Comrade L.I. Brezhnev expressed the interests and aspirations not only of the people of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries but also of all progressive forces which are waging the unceasing struggle for peace and security for all mankind.

The world press writes of the indissolubility of the Soviet Union's domestic and foreign policy aimed at strengthening the world system of socialism and defending peace and the people's security.

The report of L.I. Brezhnev's official visit to the FRG at the beginning of May has also been greeted with very lively interest throughout the world. It is regarded as an important event in modern international life.

Bangemann, a representative of the Free Democratic Party's parliamentary faction, has declared in Bonn that he welcomes L.I. Brezhnev's visit. "Good bilateral relations between the FRG and the USSR," the deputy said, "can help in many ways to boost the multilateral process of easing tension, which was begun in Helsinki and continued in Belgrade. In addition, every effort must be made for the further development of bilateral ties." The British newspaper the FINANCIAL TIMES, voice of business, believes that the visit will provide "an opportunity to give a new stimulus to East-West detente." "A wide range of questions in East-West relations will probably be discussed at L.I. Brezhnev's upcoming meeting with Schmidt," Japan's YOMIURI writes. Many foreign newspapers voice the opinion that the Soviet Union desires the further improvement of relations with countries in Western Europe.

In the Interests of Peace and Progress

After routing the Italian fascists who had occupied the country, Ethiopia's patriots raised the banner of victory over Addis Ababa in April 1941.

Ethiopia has now celebrated this holiday more joyfully than ever--a holiday illuminated by the light of the new victory in Ogaden over the forces of imperialism and reaction, which have attempted to undermine the unity of the African states, to interfere in their internal affairs and to weaken the position of the countries which have chosen the path of progressive development.

While the inhabitants of the Ethiopian capital were preparing for the nationwide celebrations at the victory monument on Arat-Kilo Square, Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Council of Ministers of Socialist Ethiopia, was in Moscow on a working visit, thousands of kilometers from Addis Ababa.

The coincidence of this visit and Ethiopia's victory day symbolically stresses the long-standing traditional relations between our countries and the moral and material support which our people have always given to Ethiopia's heroic struggle for freedom and independence. The ties of friendship which unite our countries and the desire to continue to strengthen and develop fruitful cooperation found expression in the joint Soviet-Ethiopian communique on Mengistu Haile Mariam's visit to our country.

After telling of the Ethiopian revolution's achievements and tasks and of the struggle in defense of its gains, the leader of socialist Ethiopia expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet people, the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev himself for their resolute support of and internationalist aid to Ethiopia.

Since the overthrow of the old regime, progressive transformations have been implemented in Ethiopia and the country's prestige in the international arena has increased, particularly among the developing countries. Good, friendly relations have been established between our countries. They are based on the theses of the declaration on the basic principles of the friendly relations and cooperation between the USSR and Ethiopia signed in May 1977. It has now been agreed to expand contacts and relations between the two countries' state and social organizations and institutions, to create an intergovernmental commission on questions of economic, scientific and technical cooperation and trade and also to hold regular consultations on international issues.

During the talks in Moscow great attention was paid to the contemporary international situation. The sides noted with satisfaction that broad coincidence of views exists between our countries regarding the problems which disturb all mankind. The Soviet Union and Ethiopia advocate the speediest establishment of lasting peace in the Horn of Africa--peace based on the renunciation of territorial claims and on the principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders and noninterference in one another's internal affairs. The elimination of the hotbed of tension and the establishment of friendly and neighborly relations among the countries of the Horn of Africa coincide with the interests of the progressive development of all this region's states and all the countries of the African Continent.

The Soviet Union and Ethiopia reaffirm their invariable support for the people struggling for freedom and national independence, demand the elimination of the racist regimes in southern Africa and express serious concern for the Republic of South Africa's plans to create its own nuclear weapons.

Examining the Near East situation, both sides condemned Israel's present policy and believe that the Israeli-Egyptian maneuvers surrounding the separate talks have been a screen for continuing Israel's aggressive actions against the Arab countries. A settlement in the Near East, the communique says, "can be achieved only through collective efforts within the framework of the Geneva conference and with the participation of all the interested sides, including the PLO."

Proceeding from the interests of the people's security, the sides advocated the speediest conclusion of agreements totally banning nuclear weapon tests and the development of new systems of weapons of mass destruction. They approved the socialist countries' initiative in the Disarmament Committee for the conclusion of a convention banning the production, stockpiling, deployment and use of neutron weapons.

The results of the Soviet-Ethiopian talks show our countries' profound concern for consolidating peace and security in Africa and throughout the world.

Class Battles

This spring is marked by a particular intensification of the class struggle of the proletariat in capitalist countries. Suffering from the constant growth of unemployment, inflation and the cost of living and indignant at the encroachment of human rights, millions of working people are raising their voices in protest and are entering the struggle for their rights.

In capitalist countries working people are coming out increasingly decisively against one of the shameful phenomena of the capitalist world--unemployment. What a tragedy of deprivation and humiliation is being brought down upon the working man deprived of the chance to earn a living with his own hands! There are over 6 million unemployed in America, 1.5 million in the British Isles and in the FRG 1.1 million people are out of work. "The situation in the labor market remains difficult," the Italian Budget Minister Morlino stated. That is putting it mildly. In that country there are 1.52 million unemployed, of whom three-fourths are young people under 29 years old seeking to apply their strength--40 percent with higher education. Over 1.5 million people in France are out of work.

Until 1980, as the economists predict, the question of unemployment will be particularly acute in the textile, sewing and metallurgy industries. According to a report by the International Labor Office, by 1985 every third person in the textile industry of West European countries risks unemployment. The following serves as a sharp condemnation of the capitalist system with its incurable diseases--the advance planning for the number of citizens which this pitiless system will throw out of the gates of enterprises and place in an irreparable position!

The worker movement is not only gathering speed in the countries of Europe and America. In Japan, where there are now more than 1.5 million unemployed, a traditional spring offensive has been mounted. The committee for the joint implementation of nationwide struggle, which unites about 9 million people, has called for strikes, mass meetings and demonstrations against the monopolies' attacks on the vital interests of the working people. Indignation is aroused by the intention of the Mitsubishi concern to freeze wages of workers and employees for 1978, despite the growth of inflation and food, transport and living costs. On the Japanese islands mass strikes have already been held by the railroad workers, printers and textile workers. Increasingly newer detachments of the working class are joining them.

People living in the world of socialism do not know what unemployment is, what it is like not to have a roof over one's head, what it is like to be an outcast in a society in which no one helps the working man if he is in trouble. Capitalism with its demagogy of "equal opportunities" and bourgeois freedoms, meaning freedom for the chosen few, deprives laborors of prospects and hope for a better future. Marx, investigating the social anatomy of capitalism, concluded: "It seems that society has found itself behind its starting point...."

In our day this is even more obvious that 100 years ago.

Events which have taken place this week show the dynamism and initiative of the socialist community countries' foreign policy and the determination of progressive mankind to seek to eliminate the threat of a new war, to reduce arms and to ban weapons of mass destruction.

Of course, the world does not develop along a smooth, well-trodden path. It is necessary to surmount obstacles and obstructions artificially erected by the forces of reaction and war. But, despite the difficulties, the main trend of our times can be seen in the international situation--the consolidation of the positions of peace, socialism and progress.

IMPERIALISM COUNTING ON SATO TO BLOCK LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

LD111339Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[From the International Military-Political Review by Maj Yu. Gavrilov and V. Chursanov: "Militarist Plans"]

[Text] The attention of the foreign press has been attracted by the recent tour of Latin American countries by Lt Gen R. Rogers, air force chief of staff of the Republic of South Africa. He visited Chile, Uruguay, and Argentina. The British FINANCIAL TIMES observed that "closer cooperation" between the Republic of South Africa and a number of Latin American countries has been the result of these visits.

At the same time observers are definitely linking these talks with the plans being hatched by imperialist circles for the creation of a so-called south Atlantic pact (SATO), pointing out that the talk revolved primarily around these schemes. According to the plans of the NATO strategists, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and certain other countries are to constitute this bloc along with the Republic of South Africa. It is designed to serve as a supplement to NATO in the south Atlantic.

The idea of creating SATO is not a new one. Soon after the appearance of the North Atlantic bloc, energetic efforts were undertaken in the West to create a similar military bloc in the south Atlantic. However, the world public's resolute protests have been hindering the implementation of reaction's plans.

Racist and reactionary regimes in the region, to judge from all the evidence, have still not abandoned the idea of setting up this military bloc. This is also indicated by the galvanization of military cooperation among them. The foreign press notes the increasingly frequent reciprocal visits and conferences of top South African and Latin American officials, their visits to military installations and bases, participation in joint military maneuvers and so forth.

All this is being carried out to the accompaniment of lies about the "Soviet threat." Western propaganda is importunately harping, in particular, on the "need to defend" the sea communications in the south Atlantic against the Soviet Navy. But in actual fact, as LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE points out, the hackneyed idea of creating SATO has been resuscitated just now "because of events in southern Africa." The newspaper refers to the choice of a socialist orientation by Angola and Mozambique, which have thrown off the fetters of colonialism, and also the growth of the liberation struggle in Namibia and Zimbabwe and the scale of antiracist action in the Republic of South Africa.

Gambling on military cooperation between the racists and reactionary forces in the countries of Latin America, imperialist circles are cherishing a hope of thereby placing a kind of "barrier" in the path of the anti-imperialist struggle of the Latin American people and of the liberation movement in southern Africa.

The mechanism of "joint operations" on this plane is already functioning. Thus, having granted a major loan to Chile's fascist regime, the Republic of South Africa in turn received CIA-trained mercenaries from Pinochet for punitive operations against patriots fighting for the freedom of Namibia.

Exposing imperialism's maneuvers, political and public figures in the region point out that the United States and NATO are backing those who support the creation of SATO. No one is in any doubt, the Senegalese magazine AFRICA wrote, that the main inspirer of the planned bloc is the Pentagon, which is counting on achieving its aims through "foreign hands." Noteworthy in this connection is a statement by the Washington POST that the United States "would not object if the idea of creating the bloc were to be implemented."

This unseemly activity by the imperialist circles is fraught with the emergence of a dangerous new seat of international tension in the south Atlantic.

UNITED STATES

VANCE SPEECH STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF SALT, STRONG NATO

LD111714Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1608 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington--U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has delivered an address at a conference of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, setting out the adminstration's policy in the area of arms control.

Vance affirmed the perniciousness of the arms race, the need for an early attainment of a new long-term agreement with the Soviet Union on limiting strategic offensive weapons (SALT), and the great importance of other mutual steps in the area of disarmament.

The secretary of state said, in partiuclar, that the arms race is a heavy burden on the country, diverting limited resources and energy which are essential for solving social and economic problems.

As they both possess immense might, the USSR and the United States have a common interest in reducing the danger of war. "If an agreement is not reached this could prompt both sides to embark on new programs for the creation of weapons, which would bring corresponding increases in costs to the tune of several billion dollars annually, but even so their security would still not be more reliable," Vance stressed.

The secretary of state gave his evaluation of the Soviet-American talks on limiting strategic offensive weapons, at which, in his words, considerable progress has been achieved over the last year. Nevertheless, he noted, "important disagreements still remain." On the subject of his visit to the USSR, which is due in April, Vance said that at the Moscow talks attempts will be made to reduce the remaining differences of opinion. "I hope that we shall be able to achieve an agreement in the near future. We shall talk for a long as it takes to attain a strategic arms limitation agreement to strengthen our security and the security of our allies," said Cyrus Vance.

Despite the fact that the USSR and the United States are pursuing their own interests, and despite the existence of fundamental differences, we hope to find common ground for limiting our most destructive weapons. The essence of the SALT talks, he stressed, is in securing mutual benefits.

At the same time the secretary of state made an assertion to the effect that the best way to insure U.S. security "is the pursuit of a policy of strong national defense." The position set out by him on the basic provisions of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks is evidence that the U.S. adminstration continues to seek unilateral advantages for itself.

Noting the importance of the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, Vance said that the United States has given a firm pledge to carry out modernization and to strengthen NATO armed forces and that definite steps have already begun in this direction. In his words, the United States, together with its allies, is bringing into operation new tactical aircraft, a new generation of armored transport and missiles of increased accuracy. He announced that one of the main points on the agenda at the May meeting of NATO leaders in Washington will be discussion of a long-term program for the strengthening of the military bloc.

DEFERMENT OF NEUTRON BOMB NOT IN INTEREST OF U.S. SECURITY

LD111603Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent T. Kolesnichenko under general headline: "J. Carter's Neutron Bomb Decision"]

[Text] New York, 8 April--Washington official circles are trying to assure the public that the United States has made something in the nature of a "gesture of good will" which should be "applauded by the whole world." Now, apparently, it is "the Soviet Union's turn" to demonstrate "restraint." Moreover, as a result of a well-organized "leak" of information the press has obtained "absolutely accurate information" to the effect that the White House decision on the neutron bomb was seemingly made "against the will of the main European allies, which would like the neutron weapon to be deployed on their territory." In fact, this is not the situation at all.

It was the indignation of world public opinion, particularly in Europe, and growing protests within the country which made the White House adopt this maneuver which official propaganda tries to depict as a "substantial compromise." Can it be a "compromise," though, when, as an official White House representative told journalists, "if necessary Mr Carter's plan will permit the Pentagon to install the bomb on missiles and use it in artillery without delay insofar as the President has sanctioned their modernization." This "compromise" is a radical contrast to the positions of U.S. progressive circles, which demand the total renunciation of the barbaric new type of nuclear weapon.

On the other hand, the White House statement has caused displeasure among the bellicose American "hawks" and all those who want to see the neutron bomb in the U.S. armory now and, particularly, in the armory of NATO forces in Western Europe. Senators Nunn, Moynihan and Jackson are particularly "indignant." The latter, for example, urged Congress to "force Carter to consent immediately to the production of the neutron bomb."

As for the Carter administration, commentators stress that by "leaving open" the question of the neutron bomb it has made a decision which does not satisfy the people's demands and is not in keeping with the true interests of U.S. security. Present-day realities demand a curb on the arms race. No wonder today all the papers are publishing L.I. Brezhnev's pronouncements about the neutron bomb, which he described as an offensive weapon which increases the risk of a nuclear war. A total ban on this dangerous weapon--this is what millions of Americans want from the Washington administration. This is what the true interests of the world demand.

PROFITS, BARGAINING EDGE MOTIVATE NEUTRON BOMB DECISION

LD111937Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1600 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Radio Moscow news analyst Viktor Glazunov takes up the problem of the neutron bomb. Here is what he writes:

The problem has been put on the agenda of international affairs by the United States. As it once presented the world with an atom bomb, so today it wants to give us the neutron bomb. But the world today is different, and it has responded with a movement of protest to the American plans that promise the people a clean neutron death.

The fact that the Americans haven't yet put the neutron bomb on the conveyor belt shows that the protest movement is strong and effective. Lately the U.S. President was again compelled to put off the final decision on the issue. But he only put it off, not canceled it. By such a stand Washington has again demonstrated its indecision and inconsistency of which Leonid Brezhnev spoke in his speech in Vladivostok. Washington is looking back at the military-industrial complex, which is already counting the profits it will make on the neutron business.

Then there are also the plans to make the neutron weapon an item of political bargaining. The New York POST, for instance, wrote about that quite bluntly, commenting on the President's decision about the neutron bomb. (?He) said that the United States will allegedly now have a much better bargaining position in dealing with the Soviet Union. Statements (?toward) a similar vein were made by Defense Secretary Harold Brown.

There are even attempts to put the blame on the Soviet Union. But as far as the neutron bomb is concerned, the Soviet Union bears no responsibility for that whatsoever. That new bird of evil is being bred in the United States. So far it hasn't been let free, and if it will that will be only at the will of the Americans, that is, if Washington avoids the clear proposal of the Soviet Union on the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron weapon--and so far everything seems to be pointing to that. Brown himself continues to say that the neutron bomb is a useful addition to the American nuclear potential. And such a stand doesn't indicate that there is real readiness to curb the arms race.

As for attempts to make the neutron bomb a point of bargaining and link the weapon with other problems having nothing to do with it, that looks like pure blackmail, and blackmail is illogical because if a government takes disarmament seriously it is more concerned about ending the escalation of the arms race than about onesided advantages. Blackmail also has no future. Experience has shown that if faced with the necessity, the Soviet Union responds in the right way. So would it be with the challenge of the advocates of the neutron bomb.

But the Soviet Union wouldn't want to follow that road, and there is an alternative to the new round in the arms race. That is a mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron bomb without any reservations or conditions. Such is the clear stand taken by the Soviet Union, and now it expects the same clarity from the Western side.

WAKE FOREST SPEECH SHIFTS EMPHASIS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

LD120809Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 15 Signed to Press 6 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Persistent, Daily Efforts"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet Union's Leninist foreign policy, the aim of which is the weakening and ultimately the total elimination of the danger of a new war, is based on powerful and reliable foundations. This foundation consists of the economic achievements of the land of soviets, which now produces one-fifth of the world's total industrial output. It consists of the inspired, heroic labor of the Soviet people who are implementing the plans outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress. "The CPSU's international activity is a nationwide business," Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said at the 25th party congress. "It is based on the economic and defense might of the country, its spiritual potential and on everything created by the Soviet people's labor."

The great programs for opening up and developing Siberia and the Far East, which were drawn up by the congress, are being implemented by the Soviet people. The world press and the news media, giving detailed coverage to the tour of certain cities of Siberia and the Far East by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, are stressing the great attention and concern of the Soviet leadership for insuring the steady progress of these regions. And in fact the newspapers of all continents have particularly singled out the idea which L.I. Brezhnev voiced at his meeting with Soviet Army servicemen in the vicinity of Novosibirsk: "The Soviet Union has never armed for the sake of arming, and it has never been nor will it be an instigator of the arms race. Our military successes are aimed at defending and securing ourselves and our socialist friends from possible aggression, wherever it may originate."

The opponents of detente are terrified by the mass movement of opposition to neutron weapons. The prospect of an improvement in the international climate, that is, the threat of a reduction in the profits of the military-industrial complex, generates malice and hatred among them. Therefore they welcomed the recent speech of U.S. President Carter at Wake Forest University in North Carolina. From the essence of the President's speech it emerges that there is evidently talk of a shift in emphasis in U.S. foreign policy from the previously proclaimed course of insuring U.S. national security through negotiations, the limitation of the arms race and the deepening of detente, to a course of threats and the fueling of tension. In the speech emphasis was placed on the intention to develop a whole series of the latest strategic and conventional arms systems. As justification for these plans, which are aimed at stimulating the arms race and exacerbating international tension, hackneyed theses about the "Soviet military threat" are being put forward, and Soviet foreign policy is being crudely distorted. The U.S. President's speech represents an evasion of the solution of real and vital problems, which the people are demanding--the ending of the arms race, the elimination of seats of tension, the deepening of the detente process and the creation of a peaceful life for all countries.

For the Soviet Union, detente means overcoming the cold war. It is the shift to normal relations among countries and the readiness to solve disputes, however complex, around the negotiating table and not by force of arms and not by resorting to saber rattling. Detente is a definite degree of trust, the ability to come to terms with each other's legitimate interests.

Rebuffing the opponents of detente and energetically advocating the adoption of concrete measures to curb the arms race, the Soviet Union, under difficult international conditions, is waging a struggle for the strengthening of peace and international security. This struggle is aimed at delivering mankind from the danger of new wars and it accords with the people's vital interests.

AMBASSADOR TOON'S REMARKS DO NOT HELP U.S.-USSR RELATIONS

LD111524Y Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

["On Malcolm Toon's Statement"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 11, TASS--Malcolm Toon's interview does nothing for advancing along the road of improvement of Soviet-American relations and building them on a firm long-term basis, writes LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, commenting on a statement of the United States ambassador in the USSR that was broadcast by a U.S. radio station.

The functions of an ambassador of one country in another from time immemorial were to promote the strengthening of relations between countries, establishment of mutual understanding between their peoples, the newspaper writes. "And Malcolm Toon makes statements that do not serve this purpose at all. Seeming to touch upon the state of relations between the USSR and the USA, he actually entered upon deliberations on matters that have nothing to do either with Soviet-American relations or with the ambassador's activity".

Malcolm Toon permitted himself to give recommendations to the Soviet side about how it should treat Soviet citizens in our country that engage in activity hostile to Soviet society. He also repeated allegations about "military menace" from the USSR, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA writes. "Strange behaviour, indeed. It is strange also from the viewpoint of accepted norms of conduct of diplomatic representatives. Even American newspapers were amazed at the ambassador's unusual behaviour".

"Malcolm Toon is not a private person but an official diplomatic representative of the United States. Such public pronouncements by him do nothing to promote the strengthening of trust between our countries in the same way as it would not be promoted if, say, Soviet ambassador in the United States in his public statements ventured to give recommendations to the American authorities on questions that are in the competence of the United States and spread allegations about the United States policy."

MILITARY AID STRENGTHENS SAUDI ARABIA AS U.S. 'OUTPOST'

LD120848Y Moscow TASS in English 0620 GMT 12 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 11, TASS--The United States is building up arms sales to Saudi Arabia hoping to make that country a reliable outpost of the American imperialism in the Middle East and Africa.

The total cost of arms bought by Saudi Arabia from the USA would amount to about 10 billion dollars in the current decade, the weekly U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT has calculated. Saudi Arabia forces already have 250 American M-60 tanks and 110 F-5E fighter planes. The U.S. administration is currently seeking Congress permission to sell to Saudi Arabia another 60 modern F-15 fighter planes.

Saudi Arabia is planning, with U.S. help, to build up a highly mobile army with emphasis on motorized and air borne units with powerful aviation and an anti-aircraft missile system. This programme is supervised by the American military mission headed by Airforce General Cathey, which comprises 250 U.S. officers and 750 U.S. Defense Department staffers.

There are also about 6,000 American experts in Saudi Arabia representing various military-industrial companies including Northrop, Lockheed Aircraft, Raytheon, and Bendix. U.S. Army engineers are supervising a massive 10-year program to build military bases, strategic roads and other war installations costing 17 billion dollars.

SOVIET AFRICAN INTRIGUES CITED BY U.S. DETENTE OPPONENTS

LD120044Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] One of the favorite accusations by the opponents in the United States of easing tension is that the Soviet Union and Cuba are supposedly interfering in the internal affairs of the African nations. Here is what Nikolay Shishlin had to comment on that:

Less and less people in the West, including the United States, believe in the old outworn claims about a so-called Soviet menace. These accusations come from the days of the cold war and therefore require a new approach; so the opponents of relaxing tension are trying to revise their approach by making the standard and unsubstantiated claim that the Soviet Union is interfering in the internal affairs of the African countries.

At first, these accusations were put forth during the Angola events. Claims were made that the situation in Angola would have been calm and gone well if the Soviet Union, Cuba and the other socialist countries had not given military aid to the Angolan upsurgents. [as heard] But this is just wishful thinking. Not long ago Angola was a Portuguese colony. The masters there were Portuguese colonizers and foreign monopolies, including those from the United States. They exploited the country's natural resources and the native population. This situation was not to the liking of the Angolans and so they took up arms. The Portuguese revolution created the conditions to successfully conclude the struggle of the Angolan patriots. But just as Angola won its independence it became an object for direct military pressure from forces armed and organized by Western countries. These forces were added to those of the racist regimes in Pretoria and Salisbury. Angola was attacked by mercenaries that had been trained and armed in the West, and Angola faced armed aggression from the Republic of South Africa supported by the NATO countries.

This was the situation when the Soviet Union and Cuba responded to the requests for aid from the Angolan Government. This aid from the USSR, Cuba and the other socialist countries helped the Angolan people defend themselves against the aggressors and to begin reviving and developing the country. There is no way it can be construed that the Soviet Union was interfering in Angola's affairs, and the Soviet Union certainly was not seeking any special privileges or concessions in Angola. The Angolan people became their own masters.

Nevertheless, Africa still figured in the anti-Soviet propaganda in the United States, even after the events in Angola were over. The situation in the Horn of Africa served as an excuse to again accuse the Soviet Union of interfering in African affairs. In this region, the object of intrigue was Ethiopia. Attempts were made to upset the revolution there, and no one denies that it was Ethiopia that was attacked. And no one denies that the aggressor received military aid from reactionary Arab regimes which were getting weapons from the West. Because of this support, including military support from the Soviet Union, Cuba and the other socialist countries, the Ethiopian revolution was able to stop the conspiracy that would have robbed the country of its independence. Ethiopia rebuffed the aggressor and liberated its territory. Despite what the media said in the United States, Ethiopian troops did not go one step beyond their own borders. Ethiopia's political orientation on socialist development and its non-alinement policy suffered no changes. This policy is set by the people of the country. Therefore, it is a fairy tale to speak of Soviet expansion on the African Continent. The Soviet Union has no intention of receiving any special privileges from Ethiopia or any other African country.

The African people, confronted by imperialist pressure from the NATO and racist countries, see the socialist countries as their natural allies. This is because the African countries see through their experience that the socialist countries are not seeking any advantages. The Soviet Union has always believed that each nation has the right to choose its own path of development and should decisively stop any attempts to change borders by force, or perpetrate acts of aggression. By consistently coming out for the peaceful settlement of controversial problems, the Soviet Union feels that it should respect the right of all nations to be master of their own home. This should be the attitude towards the African countries, as well--and broad sections of the American population no doubt share this attitude.

CIA'S CARLUCCI WARNS OF SOVIET PENETRATION OF AFRICA

LD111518Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1417 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

["Rejoinder: Mr Carlucci Is True to Himself"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow--TASS commentator Vadim Biryukov writes: Speaking to the Senate Armed Services Committee Frank Carlucci, deputy director of the CIA, stated that the USSR and Cuba are. supposed y, "intensively penetrating" Africa and intimidated his listeners in all sorts of ways about "the negative consequences" which this "penetration" could produce.

The fabrications about "Moscow's hand" in Africa are so ridiculous that they require no denial. It is well known that the Soviet Union, like the other socialist countries, is not in search of selfish interests in Africa, unlike the United States, that it is not striving to create its own "zone of influence" there, that it is not after any concessions or military bases.

Undoubtedly Mr Carlucci is aware of this. It should be taken into account, however, that this high-ranking CIA emissary specialized in all kinds of provocations, subversive activities and falsifications for many years. Here is his service record: In 1964 he was expelled from Zanzibar, took part in the preparations for an attempt on Lumumba's life in the Congo, was involved in the rightwing coup in Brazil and in the "black colonels" conspiracy in Greece, and he also supported the antigovernment activities of the Portuguese reactionaries on 11 March, 1975. Wherever Mr Carlucci happened to be preparations were made for state coups. An eloquent biography!

Apparently Carlucci has decided to specialize in African problems now. But he views these problems through the eyes of the CIA. And it is known that the eyes of the CIA see everything in a special light. Black is white and vice versa....

NEW INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY 'APRIL FOOL'S JOKE'

LD111045Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[O. Ignat'ev article: "His Old Chair Under a New Sign"]

[Text] You are, of course, aware of the existence in the United States of the propaganda department called the U.S. Information Agency [USIA]. Yes, that's right, the one which is called upon to present white as black or at least as a grayish-brownish red. The same USIA has handled all the misinformation spread throughout the world from the United States. Every year the same USIA is presented more than $250 million from the U.S. budget on a huge plate.

Well then, henceforth the USIA does not exist. Believe it or not, a few days ago the following laconic telegram was received from Washington: "Today the USIA ceased to exist."

I read the report and imagined what an extremely foul mood the former staffers of the defunct [pochivshego v boze] USIA must be in. Where could they go, what with the present unemployment in the United States? As far as the CIA officials in the USIA are concerned, it is clear that they will not be left jobless. But take Mr John Reinhardt, the USIA boss, for instance--where will he find another niche which pays so well? Mister Reinhardt, where are you now, poor man?

I wondered just what will now become of the 200 USIA offices scattered around 120 different countries. Will they also be closed? And who will conduct the various voices of "free Europe" there? Maybe Washington has at last heeded the voice of reason and, displaying concern for the environment, has decided to stop poisoning the airwaves? In which case the money saved by closing the USIA (as the saying goes, you never can tell) will be spent on some noble purpose, for instance, on publishing posters telling of the danger of smoking marihuana.

All this seemed so fantastic and unlikely that I decided to reread the telegram from Washington. Then the truth immediately revealed itself, because the telegram began as follows: "WASHINGTON, 1 APRIL...." April fool! A Washington joke, so to speak.

The next day a detailed report on this topic arrived from Washington.

The fact is that the USIA is not being eliminated, but expanded.

Of course, the bureau's staff is not to be reduced, but increased.

And the budget appropriations for the USIA will not be spent on any philanthropic purposes--quite the contrary; there is talk of increasing it to almost $400 million in 1979.

Only one small detail in the April fool's day telegram was accurate; henceforth the propaganda department will not be called the USIA. The International Communications Agency has been created to replace it. True, it is said in Africa that a crocodile does not become a vegetarian merely because you call it an antelope. But what does Washington care about African folklore when it will now have a whole agency dealing in the creation of its own fairytales and other fables.

That is how 1 April was celebrated in the U.S. capital.

I was going to end with that, but I remembered Mr John Reinhardt, former USIA chief. It might be thought that if anyone had been unlucky in this story, it was he.

Nothing of the sort. He is still sitting in his old chair. Only the sign on his office door is different: Instead of the old "chief, USIA," it is the new "chief, International Communications Agency."

FALLOUT THREATENS: U.S. WARNED AGAINST PRC AMBITIONS

LD101221Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 9 LD

[Correspondent Iona Andronov report: "Peking Drizzle for America"]

[Excerpts] New York--Heavy rain fell almost daily for 10 days in the second half of March from Seattle in the extreme west of the United States to New York in the east. But on this occasion the long-awaited spring rain was dangerous. For each drop contained a speck of radioactive iodine-131.

The gigantic radioactive cloud first reached Alaska and then floated over Wyoming, it hung over Colorado and was then broken up by the winds into a dozen stormclouds, which drifted, showering rain onto other states, to the Atlantic seaboard. According to reports from U.S. meteorologists, the radioactive cloud was formed far away across the Pacific as the result of a Chinese atmospheric explosion.

Yet Peking diplomats are trying to assure the Americans that there is nothing to be frightened or indignant about. Quoting the Maoists, the New York TIMES reiterates that "their military nuclear program is aimed against the Soviet Union", and as for the present threat to the health of millions of Americans, the U.S. press is keeping shamefully quiet about it as though by agreement. Perhaps there really is no threat?

"In terms of the radioactive pollution of the atmosphere, the latest Chinese explosion was unusually dirty," I was told over the telephone from Washington by Richard (Pollak), head of the capital's public organization of opponents of atmospheric nuclear tests.

"The public organization I head," Richard (Pollak) said, "has frequently publicly censured the Chinese authorities in the past for their nuclear explosions and has condemned the inaction of the U.S. administration. We have again protested to the State Department over its reluctance to 'annoy' the Chinese leaders. This tactic of silence and indulgence toward Peking is absolutely unacceptable. On the Chinese side, the constant poisoning of the atmosphere is provocative irresponsibility. We openly warn the President that his fellow citizens are seriously worried by the absence of official comment from Washington on the spread of Peking's radioactive pollution.

It was 6 weeks ago that U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown, militating for further rapprochement with Peking, frankly blurted out the reason for the flirtation with the Maoists: "China is a strategic counterweight to the Soviet Union." Brown also advocated selling U.S. military equipment to the PRC.

But the historical experience of U.S. policy in the Far East reminds us how risky and rash it is to play with aggressive chauvinist forces. Let us recall that the Japanese military was set on its northern neighbor, but the former attacked Pearl Harbor. Now Peking, in creating a nuclear strike arsenal, is treating Americans to the poisonous iodine-131. Let the "paper tiger's" teeth fall out today, they say. And tomorrow? The Maoists are saying increasingly frequently that their ancestors "discovered America" long before Columbus. The danger with which these transparent hints from Peking are fraught is well known.

CARTER CALLS FOR MEASURES TO CURB SERIOUS INFLATION

LD1200[illegible]OY Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] President Carter has announced a 5 and 1/2 percent limit on wage increases for government employees and urged workers of private companies to voluntarily agree to a similar cure. Speaking in Washington the President said that if Congress failed to accept his energy program he would use enforcible measures to cut oil imports. President Carter admitted that inflation is one of the worst economic problems in the United States.

CSSR'S INDRA CONTINUES VISIT TO SOVIET UNION

Visits Scientific Research Institute

AU110902Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 10 Apr 78 AU

[Text] Today in Kiev CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee First Secretary Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy received Alois Indra, head of the delegation of the CSSR Federal Assembly, Czechoslovak CP Central Committee Presidium member and Federal Assembly chairman. A warm and friendly conversation was held.

The parliamentary delegation from the fraternal country had a conversation today with Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Vatchenko. Present at the conversation were Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman Belyy, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium Secretary Kolotukha and other officials.

Today the Czechoslovak delegation visited the scientific research institute for extra hard materials of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and attended a friendship meeting there which assumed the proportions of a brilliant manifestation of brotherly sentiments. Novikov, director of the institute; Golovchenko, board chairman of the Ukrainian branch of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society and Ukrainian minister of motor transport; Lichvanenko, woman worker at the experimental plant of the extra hard materials institute; and others spoke at the meeting about the inviolable links between our states and peoples, about the common struggle for socialism and communism, and of lasting peace all over the world.

Vaclav David, Federal Assembly deputy chairman and CSSR People's Chamber chairman, was warmly received by the audience. He delivered a speech at the meeting.

Returns to Moscow

LD111505Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] A delegation of the Federal Assembly of the CSSR, led by Indra, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee, chairman of the Federal Assembly, has returned to Moscow after a tour around the country.

Address at Moscow Automobile Plant

LD112100Y Prague CTK in English 1738 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 11, CETEKA--The mission of the delegation of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly in the Soviet Union will be fulfilled thanks to its hosts--the USSR Supreme Soviet and all those with whom the delegation met in Moscow, Moldavia and the Ukraine, chairman of the Federal Assembly Alois Indra said here today.

Alois Indra was addressing the workers of the Leninist Komsomol automobile works with which the Czechoslovak Skoda works in Mlada Boleslav has been developing friendly relations for already 20 years.

The cooperation between the two automobile works is an example of frateral cooperation of a new socialist type, he said.

He also recalled that Czechoslovakia has become the third country in the world which has sent a man into outer space. It is a convincing example of the unselfish internationalist relations between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak people will never forget this great fraternal act of the Soviet friends, he added.

Alois Indra also said that the nations of Czechoslovakia keep in memory the significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution for the foundation of Czechoslovakia in 1918, the foundation of the Czechoslovak Communist Party in 1921 and its [word indistinct].

Lays Wreath in Moscow

LD111326Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1000 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The delegation of the Federal Assembly, led by Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Federal Assembly, accompanied by Vitaliy Petrovich Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today laid a wreath at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum. The delegation also laid a wreath at the grave of the unknown soldier.

SESSION OF YUGOSLAVIA'S STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTED

LD110845Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Belgrade, 7 April TASS--Under the chairmanship of J. Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia and chairman of the LCY, a session of the SFRY Presidency was held today to discuss questions of Yugoslavia's foreign policy and topical international problems.

The session stressed in particular that J. Broz Tito's message to L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the talks conducted in Moscow by M. Minic, vice president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council and federal secretary for foreign affairs, confirmed that relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union are developing extremely successfully. Favorable opportunities exist for the friendly mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries to expand in the future on all sides based on jointly approved principles.

The Yugoslav Presidency also heard and discussed information on J. Broz Tito's visit to the United States and Britain.

The Yugoslav Presidency confirmed the appointment of V. Djuranovic to the post of president of the Federal Executive Council.

FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S TALKS IN BELGRADE NOTED

LD101518Y Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, April 10, TASS--Talks began here between the Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Milos Minic and the Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen, who is in Yugoslavia on an official friendly visit. Views were exchanged on topical international problems and on the development of bilateral cooperation. The sides gave special attention to problems of European security and to the results of the recent Belgrade meeting.

KATUSHEV-LED DELEGATION VISITS BULGARIA

For Sofia Domestic Service reportage on the visit by the Soviet economic delegation headed by Konstantin Katushev, USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman, to Bulgaria, see the Bulgaria section of the 11 April and subsequent issues of the Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

ZAKHAROV ON EUROPEANS' 'SELF-DELUSION' OVER NEUTRON BOMB

DW1111154Y Moscow in German to Germany 1739 GMT 10 Apr 78 DW

[Valentin Zakharov commentary entitled "The Neutron Weapon and Political Adventurousness"]

[Text] It is well known that influential forces on both sides of the Atlantic for several months now have been doing everything to implement plans for the production of the neutron weapon and its stationing in Western Europe, above all in the Federal Republic of Germany. These plans bear the handwriting of the Pentagon and the NATO military. Yet, many politicians, also on both sides of the Atlantic, have their fingers in the pie, party of their own volition, partly having been pushed in that direction by the military. In Western Europe FRG politicians in particular are not coldshouldering the neutron weapon. What is more: They continue bending over backwards to palm the nuclear neutron weapons off on their people and the other NATO countries in Western Europe. For months now FRG politicians have been urging Washington and NATO headquarters to get the plans of the neutron weapon really going. The decisions of the Bundestag parties on the question concerning the neutron weapon particularly testify to this.

Further proof of this are concurring reports by several newspapers in the West which stress with reference to White House and NATO headquarters sources that President Carter would have already decided against the production of the neutron bomb had Federal Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher not requested postponement. Finally evidence of this is the declaration of the Bonn government in support of Carter's recent decision. Among other things, this decision reveals firstly that the neutron weapon could be smuggled onto European soil, since the option of equipping Lance missiles and the Pershing weapons system with neutron elements is to be left open; and secondly, it reveals the beginnings of nuclear blackmail, since the neutron weapons are being linked to other questions having no connection with them. Behind all this is the endeavor to sidestep the concrete Soviet proposal of a bilateral renunciation of neutron weapons production.

Why this unabated desire for neutron weapons on the Rhine as well? This drive of the atomic weapon addicts has nothing to do either with the security of the Federal Republic or of any other NATO country, or with defense. May it suffice to recall that the production of neutron weapons will step up the arms race and thus destabilize peace, and that according to Leonid Brezhnev the neutron weapon is an offensive nuclear weapon which exacerbates the danger of nuclear war breaking out. These considerations which many politicians, scientists and military men have emphatically put forth, prove that neither the Federal Republic nor any other country in Europe can expect security enhancement from the neutron weapon.

The widespread self-delusion in NATO and on the Rhine must be counteracted in other respects as well. Thus, Western decisionmakers succumb to a dangerous self-delusion if they believe that, being in possession of the neutron weapons, they could impose political demands on the other side which that side just cannot accept. This self-delusion is based on the hope that the neutron weapon issue could be exploited for blackmailing the Soviet Union. This intention, which is obvious from Carter's decision and Bonn's statement on Washington's decision, is no less politically adventurous than the hope of the NATO military to derive an advantage from the neutron weapon strategy, notably on the battlefield.

Well, they have brandished the nuclear club before for reasons of blackmail. It proved to be altogether useless for deterring the Soviet Union from pursuing its legitimate interest. The neutron bomb will neither intimidate the Soviet Union nor make it more inclined to yield to the blackmail aspirations of this or that NATO country. The only practical way is the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron weapons.

ARMY PAPER HITS NATO STRATEGY IN EAST MEDITERRANEAN

LD1114OlY Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[From the Maj Yu. Gavrilov and V. Chursanov International Military-Political Review: "NATO Activity in the Mediterranean"]

[Text] At the last NATO session of heads of state and government held in London, the bloc's ringleaders expressed concern about the "weakening" of the "Anlanticists'" positions in the Mediterranean. As the Greek newspaper I KATHIMERINI noted, the participants of the session then recommended "settling" the position on the bloc's southern flank--"in the regions vitally important to its political, military and strategic aspirations." How these recommendations will take shape is eloquently attested by the recent reports on NATO's militarist preparations and demonstrations in this area.

First of all, the maneuvers of the NATO member states' armed forces in this region will not be curtailed. The routine NATO "war games" in the Mediterranean under the codename "Dense Crop" was recently announced. The armed forces of the United States, Italy, Turkey and Greece will take part in them.

Secondly, the Pentagon and NATO are taking measures to further extend their military presence in the territory of the south European member states of the North Atlantic bloc. Recently, for example, a group of Greek deputies put a question to Parliament about extending the network of NATO military bases in Greece. As the question indicates, such attempts are being undertaken regarding NATO bases on the islands of Crete, Nea Makri and Eleusis.

The broad circles of the Italian public have in their turn expressed serious concern about the plans of the American military to step up its military "presence" on the Apennine Peninsula. Alarming reports have appeared about the Pentagon's intentions to build a special new port for military purposes between the cities of Livorno and Pisa, to be used by the U.S. military command to deliver missile and nuclear weapons to Italy. The local press also reported on the deployment along the northern border between Italy, Austria and Yugoslavia of nuclear mines, which are part of the weaponry of the American subunits stationed in Italy.

NATO's militarist activity on its southern flank is being accompanied by intense American and NATO diplomatic maneuvers aimed at increasing the influence of the bloc's ring leaders over the politics of Turkey and Greece in order to prompt them into closer military cooperation with NATO and the Pentagon. The "Atlanticists" are demanding from these countries an increase in their "contribution" to the "defensive" efforts of the bloc and a growth of military appropriations.

NATO ruling circles are exerting pressure on Greece with the aim of making it return to the bloc's military organization, which it left in 1974. In this context attention must be paid to the recent talks in Brussels between General Davos, commander in chief of the Greek Armed Forces, and General Haig, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe. They discussed establishing "special relations" between NATO and Greece. [paragraph continues]

Certain circles in Athens would like to use this term to camouflage closer cooperation between the Greek Armed Forces and the armed forces of the other NATO countries, despite the fact that in peacetime they will, they say, remain under national command. These "special relations," which generated sharp protests from the country's public, propose the further preservation in Greece of U.S. and NATO military bases and projects and the participation of Greek military personnel in the work of various military organs of the bloc.

Connected with plans to strengthen NATO and Pentagon positions in the Mediterranean is Washington's intention to make the U.S. Congress remove the weapons embargo to Turkey, which was introduced immediately after the 1974 Cyprus conflict. At the same time the White House proposes to have Congress approve new deliveries to Turkey totalling $225 million. This presidential decision, as the State Department spokesman noted, is aimed at "strengthening bilateral relations with Turkey and NATO's positions in the Eastern Mediterranean." In fact this signifies, as its leaders have stated, an attempt to prevent Turkey from conducting an independent foreign policy, prevent the country from leaving the North Atlantic bloc and bring about a reappraisal of Ankara's decision to close American bases in the summer of 1975 as a mark of protest against the American's imposing an embargo on weapons deliveries.

Washington's decision generated a negative reaction in Greece, which has been in conflict with Turkey since the events in Cyprus. Athens is pointing out that such a step is in contradiction to the Washington administration's earlier statements, which made lifting the embargo dependent on settling the Cyprus problem. In order to "placate" Athens the U.S. President decided to propose that Congress allocate $140 million to Greece for the purchase of American weapons.

The zigzags of American and NATO diplomacy connected with attempts to settle the Turkish-Greek differences in the interests of strengthening NATO's southern flank and maintaining military bases on Turkish and Greek territory are being accompanied by plots against the Republic of Cyprus. The "Atlanticists" are avidly seeking to remove the Cyprus question from under the aegis of the United Nations and transform it into a purely "NATO problem." Obviously connected with these plots is the intensification of the activity of underground terrorist organizations in Cyprus, which are seeking, in line with imperialist plans, to eradicate, Cyprus' independence and transform it into NATO's "unsinkable aircraft carrier."

Within the framework of its Mediterranean strategy NATO has recently mounted a real offensive against Spain. The pilgrimage to Madrid of NATO figures advising Spanish membership in NATO does not cease. Spanish politicians who visit the North Atlantic bloc countries are worked on in exactly the same spirit. In the opinion of the Pentagon and NATO this step could considerably strengthen the "Atlanticists'" positions in the Mediterranean which have been weakened, in their opinion, by the instability of the Apennines political situation, the growth of the Communist parties' influence in Italy and France and the activation of the people's struggle to conduct a foreign policy independent of NATO.

NATO activity in the Mediterranean is generating sharp protest among the progressive public of the countries of southern Europe, northern Africa and the Near East, for it contradicts the interests of peace and security in this region and goes against the noble aims of detente.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS UNRESOLVED AT COPENHAGEN SUMMIT

LD112300Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Radio Moscow's observer Valentin Belyayev comments on the recent meeting of leaders of the European Economic Community in Copenhagen and this is what he writes.

Shortly before the leaders of little Europe met in Copenhagen THE DAILY TELEGRAPH referred to the meeting as a gloomy summit and predicted that few concrete answers could be expected to Europe's economic problems. Today it does indeed look as if the paper were right. Apart from decisions of little significance concerning the date for elections to the European Parliament and the agreed declaration on democracy, the Copenhagen meeting proved unable to reach a common viewpoint on the key economic problems facing Western Europe.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS, in commenting on the Copenhagen summit, forecast that failure to agree on precise remedies and solutions to common economic woes would further undermine already strained international trade, money and social systems. The results of the talks between the leaders of the Common Market countries seem to offer nothing exceptional or surprising. As a matter of fact, it has become almost a tradition for meetings of representatives of Common Market countries to produce nothing at all. But the Copenhagen session should also be viewed from another point of view.

The thing is that the Copenhagen session was supposed to be a prelude to the July economic summit in Bonn of the seven leading capitalist countries and, as such, could to a certain extent influence its outcome. There would be little sense in long-range forecasts, but one thing could be said: At their Copenhagen meeting the EEC countries made an attempt to draft a common approach to economic matters, especially to shaping a monetary strategy for Western Europe in contrast to that of the United States. The purpose of such a strategy would be to counter-pose to the dollar crisis the monetary cooperation of the Common Market, although that cooperation has for a long time now been in a deep slumber.

The main idea behind these tactics is that there can be no economic recovery and consequently no improvement in the unemployment situation until confidence has been restored in monetary stability. Since the United States refuses to cooperate stability can be achieved, according to some British experts, only by placing oneself outside the range of the dollar fever. But the question is, how realistic is such a strategy and what could it lead to?

So far there isn't even the slightest indication that the United States is prepared to show any sympathy whatsoever for its weaker West European partners. Rather the reverse. The United States is taking advantage of their weakness to step up its economic and trade expansion in the world. Japan, the only other locomotive that could speed up economic recovery in the capitalist world, has taken a very similar stand.

Observers feel that all that turns the period or preparations for the Bonn conference into a crucial period of European-American-Japanese relations, and this will inevitably have its effect on the Bonn conference. The situation that has arisen is one that probably least of all coincides with British interests, because Britain seems to count most of all on help from the other side of the Atlantic.

Probably it was for a good reason that the British prime minister voluntarily assumed the job of economic liaison agent between West European capitals and Washington in attempting to persuade the American administration to reflate the economy and to stimulate international trade. London's spurt of activities looks quite logical when one takes into account the stable unemployment figure of 1.5 million, a rate of production growth less than 1 percent, the substantial restriction of expert opportunities and the prospect of parliamentary elections in the offing.

The crux of the matter, is, can Britain and other Common Market countries expect anything more from Washington than mere repetitious enumerations of their economic difficulties? THE FINANCIAL TIMES, I seem to remember, described the latest economic talks between Mr Callaghan and President Carter as a dialog between the deaf. The results of the Copenhagen session offer no hope that there will be any improvement in the United States' hearing when it starts its talks with Western Europe.

UN EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION BEGINS SESSION

LD112137Y Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, April 11, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports: The 33rd annual session of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe has opened in the Geneva Palace of Nations today. The session is to last till April 22. Its participants--representatives of 32 countries of Europe as well as the USA and Canada--are to examine the implementation in practice of the recommendations of the final act of the all-European conference in Helsinki concerning a broadening of cooperation among the countries of our continent in various fields.

In this connection the session is to examine the proposals put forward by the Soviet Union on the convocation of all-European congresses or inter-state meetings on questions of cooperation in the field of environmental protection, development of transport and energetics. The idea of holding such meetings is known to have first been put forward by general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in December 1975.

Addressing the opening of the session, its chairman, representative of Poland E. Kulaga, called upon the ECE members to examine constructively this proposal, which is in full accord with the Helsinki final act, and take a decision on the convocation of such meetings at a high level.

ECE executive secretary, representative of Yugoslavia, J. Stanovnik expressed confidence that after a detailed debate, the commission will give concrete directives on preparations for a high-level conference on environmental protection. Its success would give a fresh impetus to the development of all-European cooperation in this field and would contribute to taking such steps in other fields.

In conclusion of its work, the session is to adopt a programme of ECE work for 1978-1982. U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim addressed a message of greetings to the session.

FINNISH CP STATEMENT ON SOVIET-FINNISH TREATY CITED

LD111347Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Helsinki, 6 April TASS--A statement by the Finnish Communist Party [SKP] has been published here on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

The independent existence of the Republic of Finland, the SKP statement says, is inseparably linked with the Great October Socialist Revolution. In recognizing the independence of Finland the young Soviet state, loyal to Lenin's nationalities policy, proceeded from the premise that friendship and cooperation among peoples are possible only when genuine equality exists and under conditions where each nation can decide its destiny for itself.

The Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, the statement observes, is a graphic confirmation of the immutability of this policy of the Soviet state.

The 1948 treaty, the statement observes, is a guarantee of the independence and security of Finland. The active peace loving policy being pursued by our country is built upon the foundation of this treaty.

Having this treaty with the Soviet Union, Finland has been able to make a positive contribution to the strengthening of peace, to the cause of detente and the security of the peoples, and in particular to the preparation for and holding of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

On the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance the SKP sends comradely greetings to the CPSU and the peoples of the USSR. Cooperation between the CPSU and the SKP which is based on the principles of proletarian internationalism, the statement stresses, serves the interests of general peace and security and the development of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Finland.

SCALE OF USSR-FRG BUSINESS, TRADE TIES ASSESSED

LD111233Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent N. Polyanov dispatch: "USSR-FRG: Scope of Business Ties"]

[Excerpt] Hamburg-Bonn--The captains of West German industry are thinking about the future. I recently met with some of them on the "executive floors" of their offices in Duesseldorf and Frankfurt am Main. Some of my interlocutors turned their thoughts back to May 1973, when they had a long, frank discussion with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in Bonn: This was during his first visit to the banks of the Rhine. The ideas expressed by the high-level Soviet guest to the effect conditions demand large-scale and long-term approaches to economic, scientific and technical cooperation produced an indelible impression on West German industrialists and financiers at the time. In actual fact it is necessary to think not only about today and tomorrow but also about the day after tomorrow, about the period which will come in 30-50 years, and to think about the point at which the third millennium will start to tick away. The scope of economic building in the Soviet Union is becoming increasingly impressive, and the pace of the scientific and technical revolution is growing increasingly rapid. Does this not open up to the West new scope for business ties with our country?

It does, and very broad scope, too. I discussed this with Dr Egon Overbeck, head of the Mannesmann concern--the big Ruhr firm which was trading with us back in the twenties. For its leader the programming of economic relations with our country up to the end of the century and beyond is not a sphere of fantastic visions but everyday reality. For Mannesmann is one of the leading participants in the "deal of the century, which was concluded up to the year 2003 and provides for deliveries of Soviet gas to the area between the Rhine and the lower Elbe in exchange for large-diameter Ruhr pipes. [paragraph continues]

When I went to see Herr Overbeck he greeted me in a particularly good mood: He had just concluded another contract to supply the Soviet Union with 380,000 tons of pipes capable of withstanding low Siberian temperatures.

"The fruitfulness of L.I. Brezhnev's ideas about a new approach to business ties between our states is beyond all doubt," he pointed out when we started speaking of the above-mentioned meeting between the high Soviet guest and West German industrialists. "We must think even now about the optimum framework of large-scale and long-term cooperation in the future, including new forms of collaboration such as for example barter deals. A fresh upsurge in trade with your country was noted in 1970. At that time the Soviet Union ordered from us 1.2 million tons of steel pipes. And now, together with your experts, we are thinking about creating new pipes which would meet the needs of the eighties. At present 18-19 percent of our total output goes to the Soviet Union. This proportion can and must increase."

My interlocutor energetically rejects the opinion of those Western economists who believe that business cooperation with the Soviet Union has already nearly "reached the ceiling." He tells of an interesting detail: While selling large-diameter pipes to the Soviet Union, Mannesmann in turn buys the latest Soviet units for the production of thin-walled, small-diameter pipes.

"A certain Soviet professor materialized a brilliant technical idea by creating this amazing machine together with engineers," Dr Overbeck remarked. "Incidently, the possibilities for economic, scientific and technical exchange are truly boundless."

People in Bonn know perfectly well that the experience accumulated in developing these relations with Moscow is in many ways unique and can serve as a good example for other Western capitals. It was not for nothing that Detlev Rohwedder, state secretary at the Federal Ministry of Economics, recently emphasized in conversation with me:

"Back in 1970 few people believed that in 5-7 years we would be able to reach such a high level in economic relations with your country that has now become reality. At the beginning of last year it seemed that the volume of commodity turnover would fall, but in the second half of the same year that impression vanished. We have worked well together with our Soviet partners and have shown once again that mutual trust and accumulated experience successfully overcome difficulties."

In the opinion of my interlocutor there is every reason to pay tribute to an impressive number of joint long-term undertakings which will undoubtedly become a landmark in the history of world economic relations. They include Oskol, with the world's largest electrometallurgical combine; the "gas for pipes" contract, and much besides. More than 350 large-scale projects being implemented speak for themselves. In short, to take a realistic approach to the matter, the Soviet Union and the FRG, economically the strongest powers in Europe, need not fear that they will reach a "ceiling" in their economic cooperation.

"What must be done next?"--Herr Rohwedder asked, and immediately replied: "On the basis of mutual advantage we must energetically continue the policy of new contracts and deals and diverse forms of economic cooperation and commercial exchange."

Not only the economy but also politics gain from this. When a lively economic, scientific and technical exchange is organized between states with different social systems, this also affects their political cooperation in a very good way.

Guenther Van Well, state secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, frankly said on this score that the high level of economic relations "makes a significant contribution to the stabilization of relations between our two countries. The long-term development of trade and industrial cooperation is in the interests of both sides."

It is all the more regrettable, however, that the artificial barriers which sometimes become a serious obstacle to mutually advantageous commerce still have not been removed. For example, certain Soviet deliveries, particularly finished products, and, above all, machinery and equipment, have customs duties attaining 20 and more percent of the cost of the products levied on them. But when similar commodities are imported here from capitalist states, the duty is equal to zero or is very moderate. Trade is still being slowed down by voluminous lists of "strategic goods" whose delivery to the socialist countries is prohibited by NATO leadership. And there exist other unnatural obstacles hindering the normal development of business ties. When you mention all this to local industrial bosses, you frequently hear in reply:

"Customs duties and strategic lists? What nonsense! Shelve and forget it...."

Alas, there is still a considerable distance from sensible judgements to reasonable actions. And not only because of the sluggishness of bureaucratic machinery in the West but also because of the stand taken by conservative circles. For they simply lose sleep at the very thought that mutual trust could triumph in the European arena in matters of big politics and economics.

The future, however, does not belong to these circles. Looking into the future, businessmen have grown accustomed to thinking in, above all a captious and precise way. Their conclusion is clear: If you do not want to miss the boat, see in good time to good trade relations with such reliable partners as the Soviet Union and the other socialist community states.

SIGNING OF FRG-CSSR STATEMENT, AGREEMENT REPORTED

LD111956Y Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, April 11, TASS--General secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee, President Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia, who is currently on an official visit in the FRG, and FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt have signed a joint statement here today. It stresses the great significance of detente for the development of international relations. The sides expressed determination to contribute actively to this process so as to make detente durable and all-embracing.

The Foreign Ministers of Czechoslovakia and the FRG Bohuslav Chnoupek and Hans Dietrich Genscher, have signed today an agreement on cultural cooperation between the two countries.

GROMYKO, KEKKONEN ADDRESS FINNISH TREATY ANNIVERSARY

For PRAVDA texts of the speeches by Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and Finnish President Kekkonen at the 4 April meeting marking the anniversary of the Finnish-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, see the Nordic affairs section of the 12 April West Europe DAILY REPORT.

PROGRESSIVE ARABS SEEK PREPARATIONS FOR ARAB SUMMIT

LD111938Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad has toured a number of Arab countries in order to discuss with their leaders the possibility of convening an Arab summit conference. The latest Arab League session in Cairo has endorsed his efforts, expressing concern over the split in the Arab world.

All Arab countries, including those taking part in the Cairo Arab League session, can see for themselves now the failure of As-Sadat's separate course and the danger it constitutes to the Arab cause. This being so, it appears that restoring Arab solidarity should proceed from a need to oppose this course, which has been the major cause of the split in the Arab world. But despite this, participants in the League's Cairo session proposed that members of the steadfastness front abandon their decision at the Tripoli and Algiers summits: decisive rejection of any meeting in which As-Sadat participates as a condition for an Arab summit conference.

It must be pointed out that advocates of this stand think that if As-Sadat regains his reputation in the Arab national movement, this would help him overcome his mistakes in his relations with the United States and Israel and also help him abandon his separate course. But such hopes are very naive, even if sincere. The Moroccan AL-HAYAT AL-BARLAMANIYAH writes that the separate course is not at all the fruit of As-Sadat's improvisation. When the Ford administration was in power, Washington and Cairo initialed a secret agreement in Alexandria and Geneva, in accordance with which there were direct, secret contacts between Egyptian and Zionist diplomats. Was it not such an agreement that sparked the historic initiative of the Egyptian president? In the light of this, progressive forces in the Arab world call for responsible preparations for a general Arab summit conference. Writing about the importance and need to strengthen Arab solidarity and unify Arab efforts, the Damascus AL-BA'TH points out that Syria objects to a solidarity that would be only a coverup for As-Sadat's affairs, beginning with his visit to Israel.

PAPER REPORTS PLAN FOR U.S. BASES IN SINAI

LD111442Y Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

["Pentagon's Plans"--TASS headline]

[Text] Paris, April 11 TASS--The U.S. State Department is now considering the possibility of concluding a tripartite agreement involving Washington, Cairo and Tel Aviv, the newspaper MATIN writes today. The U.S. plan, the newspaper says, provides for the establishment of American air bases in the Sinai in places where Israeli military airfields are now located. American "presence" on the Sinai Peninsula is meant to become a "buffer" between Israel and Egypt.

As is known, Prime Minister Begin insists on keeping Israeli air bases in the Sinai under the pretext of "ensuring Israel's security". Such a demand does not let Egyptian President as-Sadat conclude a separate deal he wants because this would be seen by other Arab states as an overt act of betrayal.

The American proposal is acceptable to both sides if only because both of them have sought American "presence" in the Sinai in the form of American personnel of tracking and early warning stations after the second Egyptian-Israeli troop disengagement in the area in 1975. MATIN believes that American bases could, on the one hand, act as warning stations and, on the other--and this is most important--would facilitate the strengthening of American "strategic presence" in the Middle East, in the Persian Gulf area and in the Horn of Africa. The Israeli side, the newspaper says, has no objections of principle, and this proposal was evidently discussed during Israeli Defence Minister Weizman's latest visit to Cairo where he held talks with President as-Sadat and Egyptian War Minister al-Jamasi.

SAUDI ARABIA TERMED AGENT OF U.S. IMPERIALISM

LD101816Y Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 10, TASS--Along with Israel Saudi Arabia serves as an agent of U.S. imperialism in the Middle East, writes IZVESTIYA political commentator Vladimir Kudryavtsev.

Analysing Riyadh's foreign-policy course, the commentator points out that Saudi Arabia supplies reactionary regimes in the Middle East and, as recent events in the Horn of Africa showed, also in Africa, with both finances and armaments (mainly of American make). By supporting the Somali agressors against Ethiopia, the ruling circles of Saudi Arabia counted on detaching Ethiopia's Red Sea coastal part in order to turn the Red Sea into a land-locked "Arab lake," which coincides with U.S. ambitions in that area.

At the same time it sought to use others to strike a blow at the Ethiopian revolution, regarding it as a menace to Arab reaction. And even after the rout of the Somali aggressors Saudi Arabia continues its support for Mogadiscio.

The interdependence of Saudi Arabia and the U.S. in regard to oil, Kudryavtsev writes, explains United States' support for the reactionary Saudi royal regime, which is hostile to modern change and social progress, and which the American imperialists want to use for taking the entire Middle East in hand.

However, Saudi nationalism and antizionism, which compel Riyadh to heed, to a certain extent, the opinion of other Arab countries, objectively stand in the way of turning Saudi Arabia into a reliable, wholly obedient tool of American policy in the Middle East, all the more so that it has embarked on a course towards Arab nationalistic unity under Saudi leadership.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON ISRAELI MOVE INTO LEBANON

Continuing Tension

LD111348Y Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 11, TASS--The TASS correspondent, Anatoliy Borisov, reports:

Tension continues in the Lebanese capital as a result of continuing armed clashes provoked by Israeli agents. In the last two days, seven people were killed and some 30 wounded in the western sector of Beirut.

Last night, positions of the inter-Arab forces were fired upon. The command of the inter-Arab forces ordered to open fire on the provocateurs without warning.

Developments in the Lebanese capital in recent days are closely connected with the attempts by Israel and the conservative forces backing it to continue the occupation of the south Lebanese districts.

According to press reports, the first stage of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from south Lebanese districts began this morning. The withdrawal of the troops has been planned from the district of Al-'Urqub and the Province of Marj 'Uyun. The Beirut press emphasizes that strategic points and dominating heights continue to be under the control of the Israeli military. More, the newspaper AS-SAFIR writes, there are no indications that the Israeli troops would abandon positions in the central and western sectors of the southern Lebanon in the near future. Active engineering operations are conducted there by sapper units that are reinforcing positions, building strongholds and road blocks on the main roads.

'Arafat TV Interview

LD111747Y Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 11, TASS--In the course of an Israeli aggression against Lebanon, 82 south Lebanese settlements were subjected to bombardment and bombing. Six of them were razed to the ground, said Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization. In an interview to the American radio-television company N.B.C. in Beirut he pointed out that Israel made a wide use of American Phantom and Skyhawk planes which dropped upon Lebanese towns and Palestinian refugee camps napalms and rockets, also such barbarous weapons as the American cluster bombs. These criminal actions led to deaths of many civilians, including old people, women and children.

Faced by irrefutable facts, the U.S. Department of State was compelled to admit that the Israeli troops used in Lebanon U.S.-made cluster bombs and that these actions of Tel Aviv are a violation of the agreement between the United States and Israel on the use of American arms.

But Washington does not intend to take any measures toward Israel. Washington's overt tolerance of Israeli violations by its contractual obligations cannot be regarded otherwise but as direct encouragement of the aggressor.

Israeli Withdrawal

LD111750Y Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 11, TASS--The partial pull-out of Israeli troops from Lebanon's southern areas is only a manoeuvre with the aim of distracting the attention of world public demanding immediate and full withdrawal of the occupiers in keeping with the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council, the newspaper AN-NIDA' writes today.

Reports coming from the south, the newspaper notes, indicate that the Israeli occupation troops do not intend to withdraw from Lebanon's territory. On the contrary they are strengthening their positions, preventing the return of refugees and engineering all sorts of provocations.

The newspaper draws attention in this connection to the statement issued by Israeli occupiers last night saying that they have taken power "into their hands" in the south of the country. This statement, along with threats against the inhabitants of southern Lebanon that repressive measures will be used against them, if they refuse to fulfill the orders of the occupation authorities, the newspaper AN-NIDA' stressed, is vivid evidence of Tel Aviv's intention to carry on its expansionist aggressive policy.

Goals of Palestinians

LD112200Y Moscow TASS in English 2118 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] PAP, Warsaw, 11 April--Chairman of the Palestine People's Council, the supreme representative body of 4 million Palestinian people, Khalid Fahum, has granted an interview in Damascus to PAP Middle East correspondent Tadeusz Jackowski on the situation of the Palestine Liberation Organization after the recent events in Lebanon.

In reply to the question concerning the current goals of the PLO and the Palestinian People's Council, Khalid Fahum stated that both the PLO, the Lebanese state, the Arab world and international public opinion should concentrate their attention on the key problem which at present is the Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon in line with the UN Security Council resolution. This is the key task, the more so as the PLO is interested in the security of south Lebanon, in cooperation with the sovereign, generally recognized and legal government of Lebanon headed by President Sarkis. "We are convinced that it will be possible to reach an agreement with the Lebanese Government on the basis of the earlier signed treaties, in Cairo and after the civil war in Lebanon, in Stora, a locality on the Lebanese-Syrian border. This can happen only when Israel withdraws from south Lebanon", Khalid Fahum pointed out.

Asked whether there existed cooperation between the Lebanese right and Israel, Mr. Fahum said there were examples of this and mentioned the case of Major Khadad's army who is operating jointly with the Israeli Armed Forces. He stressed, however, that the efforts of all the patriotic forces in Lebanon should concentrate on the removing of the Israeli occupation armies.

Speaking about the PLO attitude towards the UN peace forces, chairman of the Palestinian People's Council stated clearly that the PLO does not want any conflict with the UN troops which were sent to Lebanon with the purpose of serving one aim, namely the execution of the UN Security Council resolution on the withdrawal of Israeli troops, whereas Israel was doing everything to postpone the instalment of UN units.

Khalid Fahum commented the information about the partial withdrawal of Israel saying that a partial withdrawal was no withdrawal at all. Referring to the peace initiatives undertaken by President as-Sadat, he said that the Egyptian president faced the Palestinians with the necessity to totally reject them as it was nothing else but these initiatives that brought about the split in the Arab world. Such split was always the overriding goal of imperialism and of Israel in particular. Thus President as-Sadat has done a great service not to the cause of peace but to expansionism of Israel, he stressed.

We cannot treat As-Sadat's manoeuvres with tolerance because for his interlocutor he chose Begin, a politician who himself embodies the Israeli expansionism, said Khalid Fahum and pointed out that Begin, possibly to a greater extent than anybody else, preferred the policy of annexation, partition and oppression to peace.

Israel announced through Begin that it had no intention of returning to the pre-1967 frontiers which for the Palestinians meant the annexation for good of the territories on the West Bank of Jordan and continuation of Israeli colonization, he emphasized.

As far as the losses and the situation in the Palestine Liberation Organization after the confrontation with Israel are concerned, the chairman of the Palestinian People's Council stated that owing to the determination of the Palestinian people the PLO forces tended to increase after every aggression. The enemy forces did not break the PLO materially or morally, and it is determined to continue the struggle for independence and the right of the Palestinian nation to live in its land. The death of a few or even several hundred people cannot affect the will of the entire nation, he said.

Speaking about the Palestinian-Syrian relations Mr Fahum stressed that both sides were always able to overcome the existing differences and that the alliance with Syria was the corner store and the leading strategy of the PLO struggle. Efforts to overcome the difficulties in the contacts with Syria were described as the organization's duty.

In the conclusion of his interview for the POLISH PRESS AGENCY Chairman of the Palestinian People's Council Khalid Fahum stated that the Palestinian movement was vitally interested in the consolidation of Arab solidarity and in the establishment of just peace, but for them the term just peace did not mean a capitulation to Begin and Israel.

MATERIAL ON HARMONIOUS, STABLE USSR-IRAQ RELATIONS

Friendship Treaty Anniversary

LD081220Y Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 8, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Valdin writes:

The sixth anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Iraqi Republic falls due tomorrow. The treaty is a firm guarantee of harmonious and stable development of relations between the two countries. Based on the principles of equality, non-interference in each other's affairs and mutual respect, the treaty has important international significance. Since the time it had been signed, life proved the long-term nature of friendly Soviet-Iraqi relations and cooperation. This was reflected in the pronouncements of Iraqi leaders and in the resolutions of the eighth regional congress of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party. The treaty has stood the test of time which showed convincingly that it is fully in keeping with the vital interests of both peoples.

This year is a remarkable year for Iraq. The Iraqi people will soon observe the anniversaries of two national revolutions that were the turning points in the country's history. The rotten monarchic regime was overthrown in Iraq on July 14, 1958, and a republic was proclaimed. The country entered upon a new, independent stage of development.

The progressive section of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party came into power as a result of the Revolution of July 17, 1968. It took the road of making broad progressive social and economic transformations, of consolidation of national unity and widening of cooperation with socialist countries and intensive struggle against the intrigues of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

Nationalization of a major Western oil monopoly Iraq Petroleum Company and establishment of sovereignty over the country's advance along this road. Of great importance was also the creation of the progressive national patriotic front. The Iraqi Communist Party and other progressive democratic forces take part in it together with the ruling Arab Socialist Renaissance Party.

Iraq's relations with CEMA countries, cooperation with them in different spheres, above all in the sphere of oil and gas, developed greatly in the recent years. The scopes of Soviet-Iraqi economic cooperation, of mutually advantageous trade between the two countries increased considerably. The Soviet Union's assistance in the construction of a number of large projects that are called upon to play the decisive role in the strengthening of Iraq's national economy are of great importance for successful implementation of the task of Iraq's five-year development plan for 1976-1980. Over 100 industrial, agricultural and other projects have been built or are being built in Iraq with Soviet assistance. New industries--glassmaking, pharmaceutical, electro-mechanical and a number of others have been created. Thousands of skilled Iraqi specialists needed by the country's economy have been trained.

On the anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Iraqi treaty of friendship and cooperation, the Soviet people wish the Iraqi people new successes along their chosen road of progress and transformations, the road of building new Iraq.

New 5-Year Plan

LD1123062 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS --The magazine ASIA AND AFRICA TODAY carries in its fourth issue an article by Yuriy Glukhov concerning the achievements of the Republic of Iraq. The "rapid general development and the revolutionary process in the name of perservin; and strengthening economic independence, attaining social progress and refashioning the whole of society" are the political tasks set by Iraq's second five-year plan for 1976-1980, the author notes.

The new five-year plan reflects the increased financial possibilities of Iraq. Thus in 1977, its investments in agriculture were increased by 45 percent compared with 1976, in industry--by 44 percent and in the transport and communications--by 46 percent. Capital investments account for approximately one third of the national income.

Marking the sixth anniversary (April 9) of the Soviet-Iraqi treaty of friendship and cooperation, Glukhov writes: "This document is an important milestone in relations between the two states. It consolidated a high level of friendly relations between the two countries, lent them new significance, and became a good and long-term basis for the further expansion and deepening of these relations. The treaty gave an impetus to the development of cooperation in all fields, economic, political, and cultural. The past years demonstrated convincingly its effectiveness in strengthening friendly ties between the USSR and Iraq."

One concrete expression of this cooperation is the fact that over a hundred industrial and other projects have been built or are being built in Iraq with Soviet assistance. From among the operating plants mention can be made of the electrical engineering plant in Baghdad, the farm machinery plant in Iskanderia, the cotton mill in Kut, the glass works in Romadi, the antibiotics plant in Samarra and many others. The north Rumeila oil fields have become a real beacon of Soviet-Iraqi cooperation. The construction of the Tartar-Euphrates canal and the Basra-Baghdad oil pipeline was completed recently. Soviet-Iraqi trade has increased four-fold as compared with 1972, when the treaty was concluded, and now amounts to about a billion roubles.

Soviet-Iraqi economic cooperation, which is developing on the basis of equality and which is implemented on an increasingly large scale, helps strengthen Iraq's economic independence and facilitates its advance along the road of economic and social progress. An important event in Iraq's foreign policy was the conclusion in 1974 of an agreement on cooperation with the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. It provides for the implementation of projects in various branches of economy, science and technology. The Soviet Union and Iraq share a desire to follow the road of progress and the struggle for peace and international cooperation, our peoples solidarise in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism. People in the Soviet Union follow with sympathy the successes of the Iraqi people and the birth of a new, industrialised and economically independent Iraq.

SKACHKOV LEAVES TO SIGN IRANIAN-SOVIET AGREEMENT

LD112025Y Moscow TASS in English 1928 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] Moscow, April 11, TASS--Soviet and Iranian organizations will cooperate in the construction of the second string of the northern section of the transiranian gas main. Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations Semen Skachkov has left for Teheran today to sign an agreement to this effect. The implementation of the agreement will make it possible to increase Iranian gas exports to Western Europe via the Soviet Union's territory.

OGARKOV MEETS YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC CHIEF OF STAFF

LD111501Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Lt Col (A.S. Sheyba), chief of the General Staff of the Yemen Arab Republic's Armed Forces, arrived in Moscow 7 April at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the armed forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister.

He was met at Sheremetyevo airport by Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, Marshal of Aviation A.P. Silantyev, Fleet Admiral G.M. Yegorov, Col Gen Avn G.P. Skorikov, Col Gen G.I. Salmanov, Lt Gen V.D. Serykh, and Maj Gen G.A. Borisov.

The same day Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov received Lt Col (A.S. Sheyba) and persons accompanying him. A friendly conversation took place on questions of mutual interest.

A.A. al-Matari, YAR ambassador to the USSR, and Lt Col (M. Sh. Dzharalla), military attache at the YAR Embassy to the USSR, were present at the meeting at the airport and the conversation.

MEETINGS OF SEAMEN REFLECT ALGERIAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

LD111918Y Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, April 11, TASS--The official friendly visit to Algeria by a unit of Soviet naval ships commanded by Rear Admiral Ryabinskiy continues. The Soviet naval vessels were visited by the commander of the Algerian national Navy, Major R. Benyelles, and by representatives of the wide public in Algeria. Covering the visit of the Soviet naval unit, the Algerian press stresses that the meetings between Algerians and Soviet seamen reflect the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries and peoples.

ATTEMPTED SOMALI COUP, WAR AGAINST ETHIOPIA LINKED

LD111940Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In Somalia a group of young army officers attempted a state coup. The men were arrested, but many observers regard as indicative the very fact of opposition to the present regime. Probably dissatisfaction with the policy followed since last summer is more widely spread than it appears. The aggressive war against Somalia's neighbor, Ethiopia, cannot be popular no matter what slogans it was waged under. War means hardships, destruction and death. Unfortunately, this has been the lot of many Somalians--and Ethiopians, too, for that matter. But Ethiopia was repelling aggression and fighting for its unity and territorial integrity.

As for Somali soldiers, they were dying far from their own country, on alien territory and for (?alien) ideas. For those Somalians who did not fight on the battlefield, the war meant long queues in the shops, the 40 to 50 percent increase in the prices of food (?and fuel) [words indistinct] and the loss of work and hardships [words indistinct].

All this could have been avoided but for the (?policy of territorial conquest) imposed on Somalia by external reactionaries and international imperialism, policies that conflict (?with the interests) of the Somalia people.

ETHIOPIAN PAPER SCORES U.S. ROLE AS 'WORLD GENDARME'

LD101818Y Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, April 10, TASS--The United States tries by every means to protect the West's self-seeking interests in various areas of the world, to prevent the victory of the cause of peace, democracy and socialism. This is proved convincingly by Washington's military and financial aid to the racists of southern Africa and other reactionary anti-popular regimes, the ETHIOPIAN HERALD writes in its editorial article.

Playing the role of a "world gendarme", the United States uses political, economic and other means of exerting prssure on developing countries, interferes grossly in their internal affairs. The ETHIOPIAN HERALD mentions as an example of such interference the hypocritical campaign in "defence of human rights".

The masterminds of this campaign stubbornly refuse to notice social, economic and racial inequality of millions of people in their own country, people who are deprived of fundamental human rights.

Imperialism attacks in the similar way of late the Ethiopian revolution, the struggle in defence of the interests of broad masses of the people, against the vestiges of the feudal monarchic regime that has been given over decades the United States broad assistance and that mercilessly suppressing the rights of millions. But no intrigues of imperialism will make our people abandon the chosen road, give up the principled foreign and home policy, the ETHIOPIAN HERALD writes.

USSR DELEGATION, SHITIKOV MEET WITH INDIAN LEADERS

LD111232Y Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New Delhi, April 11, TASS--The delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, headed by Aleksey Shitikov, the chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, on an official visit here, was received by India's president, N.S. Reddy, Premier M. Desai and External Affairs Minister A.B. Vajpayee.

The head of the Soviet delegation conveyed hearty greeting to the leaders of India and all the Indian people from Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Aleksey Kosygin, the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and other Soviet leaders.

Surveying the proceedings of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Aleksey Shitikov said that the course of strengthening and deepening the friendly Soviet-Indian contacts was always in the focus of attention of the supreme legislative organ of the Soviet Union. He invited an Indian parliamentary delegation to visit the Soviet Union in 1979.

India's President Reddy emphasized that the Janata Party government, which took office as a result of the 1977 general elections, was fully resolved to maintain the traditional policy Jawaharlal Nehru pursued vis-a-vis the land of the Soviets. Please convey to the Soviet people, he said, that the friendship between our two countries will remain immutable throughout the life of future generations, too. India will always pursue such a road because it fully accorded with the interests of strengthening world peace and also the building of a happy life for the peoples of India and the Soviet Union.

India's Premier Desai stressed the great importance of the talks with the Soviet leaders held during his official visit to the Soviet Union in October last. I should like to emphasize, he said, the inexhaustible energy displayed by consolidation of the Soviet-Indian friendship.

An indelible impression upon myself was made by the principled position held by Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, on questions of consolidating peace, disarmament, a ban on the manufacture of the neutron bomb, the prime minister went on to say. I am most hopefully looking forward to the visit to India of Leonid Brezhnev and Aleksey Kosygin, because I firmly believe that their visit to our country will make another big contribution to the cause of detente, or deepening mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and the entire world.

Noting the big successes achieved by the two countries of late in the development of mutually-advantageous bilateral cooperation, India's External Affairs Minister Vajpayee emphasized that Soviet-Indian friendship in any circumstances would remain vitally important for the Indian people. We shall never forget, he added, that throughout the grave trails and tests India has experienced more than once, our country always found the only reliable friend in the Soviet Union alone. It is a great merit of our friendship, he said, in conclusion, that it is not directed against other countries.

The meetings and talks, held by the Supreme Soviet delegation with the leaders of India, were marked by an atmosphere of friendship and sincere cordiality. The ambassador of the Soviet Union to India, Yuliy Vorontsov, took part in them.

MARCOS COALITION APPARENT VICTOR IN PHILIPPINE ELECTIONS

LD091225Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines has announced that the coalition of his supporters, the New Society Movement, has won at the elections for the Provisional National Assembly. The elections took place on Friday. Addressing a news conference the president at the same time admitted that in some regions the opposition attained success. He called on it to refrain from demonstrations which could develop into disorders. The opposition claimed that the New Society Movement committed various violations during the elections and in some places falsified the results. The final electoral returns will be known in a few days time.

Arrests, Disturbances in Manila

LD101504Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1130 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tensions are rising in the Philippines following the elections to the [Provisional] National Assembly. President Ferdinand Marcos declared the coalition he leads won at the polls. His statement is substantiated by a preliminary count of the returns at the polling stations. The opposition, however, claims that there were irregularities in the voting. Yesterday the opposition organized a protest demonstration in Manila in defiance of the executive's warning against anything that could lead to unrest. Several hundred persons have been arrested.

CIA Interference

LD112220Y Moscow TASS in English 2038 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Singapore, April 11, TASS--According to reports from Manila, the counting of votes cast during the elections to the Provisional National Assembly on April 7 is continuing there. According to preliminary figures, victory in the elections was won by the Movement for a New Society headed by President F. Marcos. The candidates of the movement are expected to receive a majority of seats in the Provisional National Assembly, which will function until the convocation of a permanent parliament and forming of a civilian government.

Chairman of the election committee Leonardo Perez announced that the authorities have started an investigation into the interference of foreign citizens, including U.S. CIA men, in the election campaign with the aim of influencing the outcome of the elections.

President Marcos issued a decree reimposing restrictions on the holding of meetings and demonstrations, which were cancelled during the election campaign, and ordered a strict fulfillment of the decree on martial law adopted in September 1972.

PRC MAINTAINS 'HEGEMONIST' POLICY TOWARD JAPAN

OW1121201Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 10 Apr 78 OW

[Yuriy Afonin commentary]

[Text] During the recent visit to China by a Japan Socialist Party [JSP] delegation led by JSP Chairman Asukata, Peking once again clearly indicated its objectives in its relations with Japan, particularly with democratic forces in Japan.

As everyone knows, from the first day of their talks with the JSP delegation, the PRC officials abusively attacked the Soviet Union in an obvious attempt to convince the delegation to support their anti-Soviet line. Liao Cheng-chih, president of the China-Japan Friendship Association, tried to insure that the JSP understood the extent of China's desire to cooperate by repeatedly mentioning Peking's "support" for the so-called campaign to return the northern territories. Furthermore, Chinese officials emphatically told the JSP delegation that Japan should press its territorial demands on the USSR as a major foreign policy task.

Peking likes to talk about an antihegemony struggle, and does not conceal the fact that the struggle comprises a steadfast anti-Soviet position. To the Chinese leadership, the Soviet Union is a major obstacle preventing them from achieving its big-power, chauvinist goals. Peking's antihegemony declarations, however, are actually designed to divert the attention of various peoples and countries from the naked hegemonist policy it pursues in the international arena. Developments during the JSP delegation's visit to China reaffirmed this fact.

The fact that Peking is trying to force the JSP into an increased campaign for the return of the northern territories by the Soviet Union is itself an expression of hegemonism, is it not? Peking is also applying pressure on Japan for the same purpose. Is this not an expression of hegemonism, too? All of this constitutes an example of China's outrageous interference in Soviet-Japan relations which do not concern China, does it not?

The 25th CPSU Congress 2 years ago concluded that some forces in Japan are attempting to make an illegitimate, baseless demand on the USSR concerning the Soviet-Japan peace treaty issue, and that behind this attempt is frequent and direct support from an outside force. The validity of this conclusion has been proved again. Peking is undoubtedly the outside force that is trying to aggravate Soviet-Japan relations as much as possible by instigating Japan to make this demand on the Soviet Union.

This line has become an essential part of Peking's global strategy under which the Chinese leadership opposes detente and attempts to create disputes among nations everywhere and in every possible way. Peking clearly regards the deepening of international tension as a prerequisite for the realization of its ambition.

Peking's attempt to force Japan into line with its anti-Soviet policy is clearly exemplified by the Chinese leadership's scheme to conclude a so-called pro-Japan peace and friendship treaty that is hostile to the Soviet Union. Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, in his meeting with a Komeito delegation, made it clear that China would not agree to incorporate a clause into the PRC-Japan treaty stating that this treaty is not addressed against a third country. The inclusion of this clause has become an international standard in concluding a bilateral treaty.

While Peking is trying to disguise the aim of the treaty with such words as "peace" and "friendship," its true intention is to impose a pro-Peking line on Japanese foreign policy. In this connection, Masaru Ogawa, commentator of the JAPAN TIMES, wrote in the 26 March issue of the newspaper: Far from contributing to the peace and stability in this part of the world, a Sino-Japanese peace treaty under the present circumstances would increase tensions.

There is a basis for this assessment. Chinese officials would frankly admit that China needs an anti-hegemony clause in their treaty with Japan, and that Peking would make no secret of the anti-Soviet nature of this clause.

It is noteworthy that while using the Soviet Union in every possible way to intimidate Japan, Peking supports the Japan-U.S. security treaty at the same time. This was made clear again in Chinese statements during the visit of the JSP delegation which is fighting for the abrogation of this treaty. This position may draw favorable reactions from the United States, but not from the democratic forces in Japan.

The Chinese leaders are undoubtedly trying to dictate Japanese foreign policy regardless of the Japanese people's sentiments. However, they are blind to the fact that by doing so, they expose their own hegemonist scheme toward Japan.

U.S. ARMS DELIVERIES LEAD JAPAN IN 'DANGEROUS' DIRECTION

LD120853Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "On the Path of the Arms Race"]

[Text] Tokyo, 8 April--Japan and the United States have begun talks on purchases of American military hardware to strengthen the Japanese Armed Forces. As KYODO reports, the first meeting between representatives of the Self-Defense Agency and the Pentagon took place here today, to discuss questions concerning the size and schedule of deliveries of a large consignment of F-15 fighter-bombers and P-3C antisubmarine aircraft for the Japanese Armed Forces. Their delivery to the Japanese Self Defense Forces is scheduled to begin later this year.

As is well known, in late 1977 the Japanese National Defense Council decided to purchase from the United States 145 aircraft and licences to produce them at a cost of 1.1 trillion yen.

The government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party are trying to insure that the council's decision on the purchase of these planes and their production in Japan itself is ratified by parliament.

The progressive public and democratic opposition parties of Japan oppose the ruling circles' course of further militarizing the armed forces, which were created in violation of the existing Japanese Constitution. K. Kawasaki, JSP representative, stated in parliament that "the government is pushing the country in a very dangerous direction."

SCIENCE COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH DPRK

SK090207Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 7 Apr 78 SK

[Text] A delegeation of Soviet scientists headed by (Imanelyonchi), secretary of [word indistinct] of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, has returned to Moscow following a visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. During the visit, a 1978-79 agreement on cooperation in science between the Soviet Academy and the DPRK Academy of Sciences was signed in Pyongyang.

A Moscow Radio reporter interviewed Professor (Soliniev), a member of the delegation. (Soliniev) discussed the agreement and his impressions of the DPRK:

The agreement foresees various broad measures to further develop relations between the highest scientific organs of both countries. The agreement foresees joint research and experiments by scientists of both countries in order to exchange experiences and scientific research. There will be close cooperation by Soviet and Korean scholars in chemistry, the mining industry, biology and metallurgy.

At talks held in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding, delegation members exchanged information on current research projects of Soviet and Korean scientists and technicians and discussed measures to further improve future cooperation.

In Pyongyang and Humhung, the Soviet delegation inspected research work at the Physics Research Institute, the Social Science Research Institute and Biology Research Institute under the DPRK Academy of Sciences. They also visited the Humhung Vinalon plant.

The Soviet delegation met with officials of the DPRK Academy of Social Science. At the meeting, an agreement was made to develop cooperation between social science scholars of the USSR and Korea. The Soviet delegation met with Kim Ung-sam, director of the DPRK Academy of Sciences. They also toured historic and cultural sites in Korea's capital and other cities. They toured the Pyongyang Exhibition Hall.

The agreement between the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the DPRK Academy of Sciences has already been fruitful. The agreement is an example of the traditional cooperation between scholars of our fraternal countries. We were very happy to see that many inventions of Soviet scholars are being widely used in all sectors of the DPRK economy.

The Soviet technicians highly praised the successes of Korean technicians in developing synthetic fibers, fish farminx, and in cultivating medical herbs. The agreement on science cooperation for 1978 and 1979 between the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the DPRK Academy of Sciences will contribute to further developing and improving relations between the scholars of both countries and at the same time will contribute to strengthening and developing cooperation between the peoples of the two countries.

Taking this opportunity, I, as a member of the Soviet scientist delegation, would like to extend sincere thanks to the Korean comrades who offered warm hospitality. I wish them new successes in their research.

METHODOLOGY OF LATIN AMERICA POLICY DISCUSSED

LD120821Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences K. Obyden: "In the Vanguard of the Struggle for Democracy and Socialism"]

[Text] The history of Latin America in the postwar decades has been full of turbulent and contradictory events. However, the overall general trend of the development of this region accords with the progress of world history, content of which in the contemporary epoch is the transition from capitalism to socialism. The victory of the Cuban revolution showed that Latin America, too, has embarked on this main path of mankind's development. In various countries of the region liberation processes which have assumed an increasingly patent anti-capitalist orientation have developed at a mounting tempo.

In the face of these events, the United States has been forced to revise its policy with respect to the Latin American countries. At first the experiment with the "Alliance for Progress" was conducted. After its scandalous failure, the United States went over, as Luis Carlos Prestes, general secretary of the Brazilian Communist Party Central Committee observes, to direct participation in reactionary military coups, which are regarded as a means of curbing the Latin American revolutionary process.

In the first half of the seventies, the forces of reaction and imperialism succeeded in stifling revolution in Chile and in organizing military coups in Bolivia, Uruguay and a number of other countries. Earlier, in 1964, a military regime had been set up in Brazil. As a result of U.S. imperialist intrigues, part of Latin America has found itself under the power of authoritarian regimes.

The expansionist aims of North American imperialism in Latin America, as life shows, remain the same. "The new U.S. administration," the Venezuelan TRIBUNA POPULAR writes, "is trying to pursue even further the same imperialist policy as its predecessors, but using subtler methods."

The altered situation has set new tasks for the communists of Latin America. One of the most important has been to explain to the masses, on the basis of theoretical analysis, the essence of the situation that has taken shape, and also to make the appropriate changes to the strategy and tactics of revolutionary struggle. The results of this analysis are reflected in the press organs of Communist parties, in theoretical journals, in underground bulletins, in broadsheets or on the pages of independent press organs.

Describing the situation which has developed in Latin America, the communists stress above all that, over all, it has not been possible for imperialism and reaction to halt the revolutionary process on the continent. Anti-imperialist, democratic and revolutionary movements are continuing to develop. The movement in defense of democracy, national resources and sovereignty and for the vital demands of the working people in Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and certain other states has grown stronger. The struggle against dictatorial regimes goes on.

All the same, the communists note, difficult conditions for the democratic and revolutionary movement have developed on the continent in recent years. Particularly heavy blows have been dealt against it in those countries where it had achieved the greatest strength, thereby posing a threat to the dominance not only of imperialism but also of capitalism itself. Because of this, the revolutionary process in Latin America has entered a more complex phase.

Analyzing the reasons for the change in the situation on the continent, communists have come to the conclusion that profound causes lie at the root of changes, above all the qualitative changes in the nature of the socioeconomic and political development of a number of countries. Despite the existence in these countries of considerable zones of backward capitalism and even pre-capitalist remnants, capitalism in a number of Latin American countries has entered the monopoly stage of development.

Extensive Marxist literature on this issue has alread appeared in Latin America. A fundamental Marxist work by (Kn.S. Kolmenares) was published in Colombia in 1977 entitled "The True Masters of the Country (The Oligarchy and the Monopolies in Colombia.)" According to the author's figures, 10 powerful financial groups monopolizing 67 percent of production capital have now taken shape in the country. In these groups no more than 50 individuals, who make up the financial oligarchy and represent the "real power," run the show.

The appearances of monopolies and a financial oligarchy, the communist note, has led to a sharp exacerbation of all capitalist contradictions and given rise to a profound structural crisis. In order to save the exploiter system, the ruling classes in Latin American countries have increasingly resorted to establishing militarist terrorist dictatorships, whose policy has been based on anticommunism.

A characteristic trait of the current fascist dictatorships, Rodney Arismendi, first secretary of the Uruguayan Communist Party Central Committee, wrote in the Mexican Marxists' journal HISTORIA Y SOCIEDAD (No 1977), is that "their social base is chiefly financial capital," closely bound up with the landowner class and imperialist monopolies.

But as is known, monopoly bourgeois circles do not always resort to fascism, even under crisis conditions. Where the class struggle has not yet reached a level at which it jeopardizes the very existence of capitalism, they try to solve socioeconomic problems by liberal reformist methods, combining them, if necessary, with "doses" of repression and also by intensifying state monopoly regulation.

The knitting together of imperialist and local monopoly capital and the transformation of imperialism into an "internal" factor have created broad opportunities for maneuvers by the latter which the revolutionary forces have to take into account in their tactics.

Experience has shown that fascism has been unable to solve a single structural crisis problem in its countries or gain a mass social base. This explains the weakness of Latin American fascism, and all regimes of this kind are undergoing a crisis to some degree and have no prospects under present-day conditions. Therefore, Washington, while continuing to give active assistance to dictatorial juntas, is trying at the same time to depict itself as a champion of "liberalizatin" in order to win over the antifascist-minded bourgeois and petit bourgeois reformist parties and organizations which could assume power in place of these regimes.

Latin American communists continue to adovocate the implementation of a democratic, anti-imperialist and anti-oligarchic revolution paving the way to socialism, as their program documents state. Under present condidtions they are concretizing this strategic aim by bringing to the fore the task of uniting all democratic, progressive and revolutionary forces in the struggle for democracy and freedom, against fascist and military dictatorships. Defining this task, R. Arismendi urges "the creation of the widest possible unity, cooperation or simply agreement among all classes, social strata and political parties and personalities--civilian and military, spiritual and temporal--opposed to fascism."

In developing their tactics the communists have to take into account the fact that imperialism is not implementing direct rule there; it is implementing it through local ruling classes, above all through the financial and landowning oligarchy which is an integral part of international financial capital. The communist parties are trying to isolate the most reactionary circles of the bourgeoisie by creating a broad anti-imperialist and anti-oligarchic front, designed to contribute to profound democratic transformations.

The communists also believe that in these countries the struggle for democracy under present-day conditions is of tremendous significance, not only in preventing the threat of fascism but also as an integral part of the struggle for the revolutionary transformation of society and for socialism. Of course, the content and particular features of the Latin American communists' tactics are determined by the specific conditions in each country. At the same time, the Latin American communists see themselves as an integral part of the world revolutionary and Communist movement. They stress the tremendous significance, in terms of their struggle, of international solidarity, which has repeatedly stayed the hand of fascist executioners. As ardent patriots, the Latin American communists consistently uphold the the principle of proletarian internationalism and are struggling to strengthen the unity of the international communist movement.

"It is perfectly clear," the Colombian communists point out, "that the communist movement is able to act as a factor in uniting the anit-imperialist and revolutionary forces, and the greater its degree of unity, the more succesful it is" (DOCUMENTO POLITICOS, No 126, 1977). "The revolutionary forces waging the struggle against imperialism," the Venezuelan communists journal IDEOLOGIA writes, "should never forget who their real enemies are and who their friends are, they must strengthen ties of international solidarity, even ackowledging the specific conditions of anti-imperialist struggle in each country." The Colombian communists recall that the position adopted with regard to real socialism is of fundamental significance. "We believe," they write, "that on no pretext must we communists become the mouthpiece of the class enemy and of its campaigns against the socialist countries."

It was significant that in the year of the 60th anniversary of Great October the Latin American communist press published a large number of materials revealing the worldwide significance of this century's main event and also its influence on the processes of social development.

PERUVIAN GROUND FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS USSR

Received by Ogarkov

LD111511Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] On 5 April Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister, received a Peruvian delegation headed by Division General Pedro Richter Prada, chairman of the Joint Armed Forces Committee and chief of General Staff of Peru's Ground Forces, which is in the USSR. A friendly talk took place during which questions of mutual interest were discussed.

Talks With Arkhipov

LD111123Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--on 6 April I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received a Peruvian Government delegation headed by Division General Pedro Richter Prada. Juan Jose Calle, Peruvian ambassador to the USSR, participated in the conversation.

RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET CONTINUES DEBATE ON CONSTITUTION

LD111138Y Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

["Approval of Soviet Policy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 11 TASS--Patriotic pride in the superiority of socialist democracy, the wonderful successes of the USSR in all sectors of communist construction permeate the speeches of the deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation who are discussing the draft constitution of this biggest Soviet republic in the Kremlin. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0730 GMT on 11 April notes that "the extraordinary session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet resumed its work 30 minutes ago." The report goes on to note that the deputies at today's session "welcomed comrades Kulakov, Solomentsev and Ryabov with prolonged applause."]

The deputies point out that the 1977 Constitution of the USSR furnished the foundation for the further development of legislative work in the constituent union republics. The draft of the new constitution of the republic is the practical application of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, aimed at the improvement of the socialist statehood. It reflects the tremendous political and socio-economic achievements of the multinational republic and the broad achievements of socialist democracy. The tour of Siberia and the Far East made by Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, gave a further powerful impetus to the nation-wide struggle for the implementation of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the early fulfillment of the targets of the five-year plan. The working people of the federation are regarding his recommendations and directions as a program of action.

It is being said at the session that the draft accords with the demands of the present stage of development of the federation and is in keeping with the will of the people. Deputy Valentina Pletneva said: "Socialism gave to the working man that which the capitalist system can never give to the toilers". Pletneva pointed out that she, a weaver, was taking part in the discussion of the constitution. "This precisely means socialism. Can the bourgeois 'champions' of the rights of Soviet citizens mention similar instances of the participation of ordinary people in the proceedings of legislative organs? Of course, they cannot. The champions of bourgeois democracy suppress by force any striving of the working class for social justice", she declared.

Viktor Kaznacheyev said that the six decades of the annals of the dynamic development of the federation were a striking expression of the common successes of the USSR. "A society has been set up here never known before in world history, a society of developed socialism," the deputy emphasized. The session of parliament is adopting a historic document in a remarkable time. The socio-political life in the country still is under the mighty impact of the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution, the adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR, the theses and conclusions contained in Leonid Brezhnev's works.

Further Report

LD111340Y Moscow TASS in English 1257 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 11 TASS--The draft new constitution of the Russian Federation is permeated with the spirit of genuine democratism, unbreakable friendship of the Soviet peoples. This was noted today by deputies at the session of the Supreme Soviet of the biggest union republic.

The discussion on elaboration of the final text of the constitution of the Russian Federation has been under way in the Kremlin for the second day. Its draft was earlier published for a nationwide discussion.

Speakers noted that the document convincingly shows what great socio-economic transformations took place in the republic, what remarkable successes have been achieved in the development of economy and culture, growth of people's wellbeing, in all spheres of socio-political life. All these accomplishments are a result of the CPSU's guidance. The draft's provision on the Communist Party as the leading and guiding force of Soviet society therefore received universal support.

The draft constitution of the Russian Federation largely broadens the rights of citizens to work, recreation, free-of-charge education and medical attendance, social welfare. The dream of millions of people on earth has become in the USSR a reality, everyday occurrence, deputies pointed out.

The following figures were cited at the session. 1,300,000,000 roubles were spent in the republic in two years from the states social-welfare budget for the sanatorium-health resort services and recreation of workers, employees and their children. 20 million people had treatment and spent their leaves in sanatoria and rest homes.

The working people of the republic meet the remarkable event with labour successes. Those present at the hall received with appluase a report made by Nikolay Putra, a miner from Siberia to the effect that on the session opening day the team he leads completed three years' plan of the five year period.

Manysided economic and cultural development of all peoples of Soviet Russia has become the result of the CPSU's Leninist policy of nationalities.

This has been convincingly shown by citing Tatariya's example by Deputy Nail Gilyazov: The oil and gas industries were mastered in his autonomous republic in a brief period of time; petrochemistry is developing at a rapid pace. The speakers warmly approved of the draft constitution of the Russian Federation. The editorial commission on drafting the final text of the document will consider the amendments and additions moved by deputies.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 11 April notes that the editorial commission on drafting the final text of the draft constitution of the RSFSR took place in the Kremlin today. " The session was chaired by Solomentsev, chairman of the editorial commission, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers. In his speech, Comrade Solomentsev noted that the discussion of the RSFSR draft constitution, which ended today at the extraordinary seventh session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, once again proved the unity of the Soviet people as defined in the USSR Constitution. It proved the people's cohesion around the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo led by the outstanding party and state figure, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, as well as their unwavering decisiveness in the struggle for building a communist society. The deputies speaking at the session unanimously supported the draft constitution. At the same time the deputies put forward several amendments and amplifications to the draft RSFSR constitution. Having examined these amendments and amplifications, the editorial commission adopted the corresponding recommendations on them. The commission unanimously decided to submit the text of the draft constitution, along with the suggested amendments and amplifications, to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet for ratification."]

The Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet will continue its session on Wednesday.

LATVIAN PARTY HITS POLITICAL EDUCATION SHORTCOMINGS

LD101423Y Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 1 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] LATINFORM--The Latvian CP Central Committee Bureau has examined the work of the Madonskiy Raykom in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Tasks of Party Training in the Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress." The resulution notes that the Madonskiy Raykom and local party organizations have done a certain amount of work in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Tasks of Party Training in the Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress." In the rayon, 58 percent of the working people are involved in various forms of party, Komsomol, and economic study, schools of communist labor and people's universities. Communist party members and nonmembers are intensively studying the materials of the 25th CPSU Congress, the documents of CPSU Central Committee plenums, the extraordinary session of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the ceremonial session devoted to the 60th anniversary of great October; and the reports, speeches and article of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. A considerable number of communist party members and nonmembers are studying "The Constitution of Developed Socialism."

The quality of propagandists has improved, the organization of study in schools and theoretical seminars is improving and individual creative plans for propagandists are being introduced. Active forms and methods of study, visual aids and technical propaganda resources have begun to be used more widely. The "Propagandist--For the 5-Year Plan" movement has been launched in the rayon. Political and economic study has positively influenced the development of socialist competition, the introduction of leading labor methods and the rationalizers' movement.

Simultaneously, the Latvian of Central Committee Bureau noted that there are still substantial shortcomings in the Madonskiy Rayon party organization's fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Tasks of Party Training in the Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress." The study of Marxism-Leninism as a unified international teaching is not insured in all the rayon's party organizations. The lectures and speeches of propagandists and students sometimes resemble the simple reiteration of textbooks without profound philosophical, economic and sociopolitical substantiation of the provisions and conclusions of the 25th party congress.

Studies do not always fully reveal the creative contribution to theory contained in the documents of the party and the Soviet state. In several schools and theoretical seminars, study occurs at a low ideological and theoretical level, isolated from the practical tasks of collectives. Active teaching methods are still insufficiently used in the study process in schools and theoretical seminars.

Insufficient attention is devoted to the economic education of working people. Poor use is made of communist labor schools as an effective means of propagandizing leading production experience, actively involving working people in socialist competition, the movement for a communist attitude to labor, and cultivating socialist labor discipline. Schools of communist labor have been created at only 11 of the 52 industrial and agricultural enterprises.

In certain party organizations, the organizational questions of training communists, Komsomol members and nonmembers of the party have still not been resolved. Postponements and even stoppages of studies are permitted.

The shortcomings noted, the Latvian CP Central Committee Bureau resolution says, are explained chiefly by the fact that the raykom and local party organizations are not sufficiently responsible for the fulfillment of the tasks proposed in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Tasks of Party Training in the Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress." The party raykom failed to insure the profound and comprehensive discussion of this resolution in local party organizations. At party meetings and party bureau sessions, as a rule, only general questions of political training organization are examined; its content is not analyzed; and not enough precision is shown in raising the ideological and theoretical standard of communists.

The rayon permanent propagandists' seminar is not used effectively and active teaching methods are slowly adopted. Sociological research does not investigate the effectiveness of party training and the economic education of the working people.

The supervision of training progress in the raykom does not yet insure the necessary resolution of questions of the organization of the study process and the achievement of final results--the cultivation of deep and lasting knowledge and the formation of active life in the students.

The Latvian CP Central Committee Bureau has directed the Madonskiy raykom and local party organizations to adopt all necessary measures to improve the organization of Marxist-Leninist education of communist party members and nonmembers and to insure the study of revolutionary theory and the classics of Marxism-Leninism at a high ideological and theoretical level. The main attention must be focused on the propagandization and implementation of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the study of the Soviet Constitution, the materials of the Seventh USSR Supreme Soviet session and the ceremonial session devoted to the 60th anniversary of Great October, the decisions of the party Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee. The innovative and creative essence of these documents and the works of L.I. Brezhnev and other leaders of the party and the Soviet state must be brought to the attention of every student in all their profundity and force.

The raykom and primary party organizations must insure the study of Marxism-Leninism as the only international study in organic unity with the historic experience of the CPSU and with a profound command of the philosophical, economic and sociopolitical problems of developed socialism, the CPSU's international activity and the ideological struggle in the contemporary phase. They must do this by skillfully combining study with the political, labor and moral education of the working people and with the resolution of the practical tasks of communist building. It is essential [illegible] overcoming formalism and pseudo-enlightenment in study to form a scientific world outlook and a class approach to social phenomena in pupils; to educate the working people in the spirit of socialist internationalism and friendship among peoples, and by various means of ideological and moral influence, to engender in people intolerance of mismanagement and conservatism; intolerance of manifestations of bureaucratism; intolerance of a petit-bourgeois consumer attitude toward life, drunkenness, hooliganism, social dependence; intolerance to the fabrications and slander of imperialist propaganda, and to formulate an active life posture. [paragraph continues]

It is necessary to make more widespread use of such active study methods as conversation, preparation and collective discussion of essays, socioeconomic analysis of specific situations, and the fulfillment of practical tasks, viewing them not as aims in themselves but as an impetus to competition, a desire for high quality and labor efficiency and a truly responsible approach to matters.

The resolution focuses the attention of the Madonskiy Raykom on the need to further improve propagandists' training in the party and Komsomol political education system and the economic education of the working people and to conclude the social assessment of propagandists, whose work must be considered as the primary party mission. It is necessary to create for the leaders of schools and seminars the appropriate conditions for productive work and to make fuller use of various forms of encouraging their noble activity.

The Latvian CP Central Committee Bureau has required the Madonskiy Raykom and the primary party organizations to increase control over the work of communists, raise their ideological theoretical standard and insure that all communists, primarily leaders, integrate ideological theoretical study with active sociopolitical and labor activity, evaluating it as an important factor in further strengthening party unity and raising the prestige of party members among the working people and the combat capability of party organizations. At the party bureau session and party meetings, it is essential to discuss regularly the content of study, the performance of propagandists and individual communist's accounts of their study. There must be no cancellation or postponments of classes, and study calendar plans must be strictly fulfilled, insuring profound and lasting knowledge of revolutionary theory. It is essential to devise a system to organize the speeches of leading workers on the most important questions of economic and sociopolitical life of the rayon and to comprehensively study, analyze and react promptly to the pupil's questions.

The raykom must increase the interest of Komsomol members and youth in ideological and theoretical study; give more practical aid in the selection and instruction of propaganda cadres, acknowledging the specific program of Komsomol political education; create the necessary conditions for creative study by youth, encouraging deep interest and a proclivity for scientific theory, the development of a sense of social responsibility, and loyalty to cause of the communist party.

It is proposed that the raykom expand the network of communist labor schools at enterprises and farms, insure the further improvement of the content of studies in schools, and increase their role in the communist education of workers and employees including the propaganda of foremost labor organization and management experience, the development of socialist competition and primary initiatives--"Not One Lagging Behind," "The Plan of the 3d Year of the 5-Year Plan by the First Anniversary of the USSR Constitution," and others.

The editorial staff of the rayon newspaper STARS and local radio, the resolution stresses, must systematically clarify the work of party organizations in improving Marxist-Leninist education, generalize and comprehensively reveal the best experience of propagandaists, and reveal and promote the introduction of the most efficient forms and methods of raising the ideological and theoretical standard of studies and the efficacy of political and economic study.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

PAVLOVSKIY ON RAILROADS' RESPONSIBILITY TO ECONOMY

LD1211457 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 78 p 2 LD

[Article by USSR Minister of Railways I. Pavlovskiy: "Economics and Transportation"]

[Text] Despite the rapid development of other types of transportation, especially motor vehicles and pipelines, railroads bear the main responsibility for delivering goods for the national economy. They account for more than 70 percent of domestic freight traffic. The following truly astronomical figures will indicate the scale of the operation: Last year, 3.705 billion tons of freight were carried by rail. Our collectives possess 11 percent of the world's tracks and implement 53 percent of the world's railroad shipments.

Such high production indicators have been gratifying in the past, and not without reason: Soviet railroad workers have achieved the highest return on fixed production capital. The country's economy is developing rapidly but railroads and their production base have not been developing quickly enough. A number of busy lines have exhausted their freight and transportation capacity. Whereas the volume of railroad transportation work has increased 1.7 times in the last 12 years, its technical potential has increased only 23 percent.

Our collectives encounter special difficulties when mass agricultural shipments begin. They coincide with deliveries of winter stocks of fuel and metal ores. Moreover, in the summer, a large amount of engineering, repair and construction work is performed, and this has to be included. The slightest interruption leads to large losses.

The party and state are constantly concerned about developing the material and technical base of railroads and increasing the efficiency and quality of transportation services for the national economy. Railroad workers receive substantial assistance from party and soviet organs in the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Krasnoyarskiy Kray, Moskovskaya, Leningradskaya and Kemerovskaya Oblasts and other republics, krays and oblasts. Considerable capital investments are allocated to improve freight volume and throughput capacities. A general plan for the modernization of railroad transportation will be formulated. However, the implementation of this program will take a long time. This is why it is necessary to immediately mobilize railroad workers' reserves and the reserves of other national economic sectors.

In fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures to Develop Railroad Transportation in 1976-1980," the Ministry of Railways formulated measures envisaging the creation of resources for fulfilling state delivery plans. For this purpose, the organization of the transportation process is being improved. New lines and second tracks are being constructed. Production collectives must strengthen technological discipline and strictly observe operating norms. Special attention is devoted to improving the use of freight volume and throughput capacities on very busy lines. The role of traffic timetables is being strengthened.

All this has made it possible to cope successfully with the targets. This year an even greater volume of deliveries has to be dealt with, which will increase 1.3 times.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee letter correctly points out that shipment difficulties are not always the result of a shortage of transportation facilities. There are obstacles whose elimination would allow us to better satisfy national economic needs without substantial capital expenditure. The railroad workers must be helped here by USSR Gosplan and Gossnab and ministries and departments.

At present, shippers do not provide the necessary data for planning the volume of freight traffic and placing it in the network. And it is this which is the main indicator when determining the freight volume and throughput capacities of tracks and the demand for rolling stock. It is important also to take into account the territorial distribution of freight traffic. Otherwise it is practically impossible to balance the volume of shipments and the capacity of the lines. In 1977, more than 40 percent of the increase in work was accounted for by the Sverdlovsk, South Urals, Virgin Land, West Siberian and East Siberian railroads, which are experiencing the biggest difficulties in assimilating the flow of freight traffic. The departmental approach to shipment planning has not yet been eradicated. Applications for 1978 have been overstated by almost 250 million tons. This results in unjustified allocation and subsequent mass rejection of freightcars. There is a need to enhance the mutual responsibility of railroads and freight shippers for insuring realistic plans and for their fulfillment.

A great deal of work is being done to improve economic ties. However, many questions are being solved too slowly. Since 70 ministries and departments are involved in construction freight procedures, the volume of irrational deliveries is immense. Appropriate measures would make it possible to cut shipment work by more than 9 billion ton-kilometers. Annually we deliver around 38 million tons of dressed timber. But, as is known, when it is processed at the other end approximately one-third of the wood is wasted. As a result, around 10 million tons of excess timber is carried by rail every year. It is scarcely advisable, for example, that metallurgical production in the Urals and Siberia should look exclusively to the Kursk magnetic anomaly for its ore. There is the possibility of developing ore extraction at the Kacharskoye and Kachnarskoye deposits.

Railroad workers have to deliver a great deal of freight more suited to rivers, motor vehicle transportation and so forth. The fact that about 90 percent of clear petroleum products are still moved by rail cannot be justified. Because there is no underground distribution system the railroad workers deliver over 25 million tons of fuel over distances of less than 200 km.

During the navigation period 35 million tons of freight is carried on tracks which run parallel to waterways. For example, from the Olengorskoye and Kovdorskoye deposits, River workers deliver only 500,000-600,000 tons of iron ore concentrates to the Cherepovets plant, whereas 4 million tons go by the railroad that runs alongside the waterway. A better way to solve the questions would be to considerably reduce the volume of shipments by enriching coal and ore, increasing the percentage of useful substances in mineral fertilizers and so forth.

There are significant reserves in industrial railroad transportation. In this area freightcar idling time has increased by 1-6 hours over the norm. And this means an annual waste of 70 million tons of freight resources. Approximately the same resources are wasted as a result of a reduction in the work rate at enterprises' transportation shops on days off and public holidays. Particularly unsatisfactory use is made of rolling stock at enterprises of the ministries of ferrous metallurgy, power and electrification and the oil-refining and petrochemical industry, Selkhoztekhnika and construction ministries.

I will cite another example. In 1977 spot checks of weight were carried out on almost 2.5 million freightcars at stations carrying out much shunting work. Some 25 percent proved to be underloaded. More often than not these violations are committed by workers in the coal, metallurgical and chemical industries. Calculations show that up to 600,000 frieghtcars per year are used to cover up "short loads" [nedogruzy]. Reserves for shipment routing--an important means of accelerating freight delivery and reducing labor expenditure--have by no means been exhausted. The reasons? Haphazard schedules. Thus Soyuzglavles [presumably "All-Union Main Administration for Forestry"] systematically plans the delivery to the same recipient of the same assortment of timber via several routes.

The massive damage to rolling stock on the approach tracks to industrial enterprises is causing great concern. Last year, more than 70,000 freightcars were put out of commission, including more than 28,000 at USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy plants.

It is clear to everyone that the disproportion between the technical standards of primary [osnovnoye] production and transportation facilities is hampering an effective struggle against freightcar idle time. The necessary special-purpose funds should be appropriated for developing track facilities at plants, factories, mines and pits.

Good experience has been accumulated by the collectives of the Moskovskaya and Chelyabinskaya oblasts' industrial railroad transport enterprises, where they have succeeded in reducing freightcar idle time by a whole hour against the norm. However, this experience has still not been widely disseminated, since our clients are fully reimbursed for their transportation expenditure either by the consumers of the output or the sales organizations, irrespective of how they use the transportation. This is one of the reasons for the systematic increase in transportation expenditure in the national economy which last year totaled about R78 billion. Handling costs per ton of output have increased by R2 [as published] in the last 15 years. The situation whereby transportation expenditure is a faceless item under other subheads and is not planned and allocated on the basis of actual costs can no longer be tolerated.

We realize that it is equally important to increase the development rate of the material and technical base of railroad transportation. Much depends here on the sectors that supply transportation with rolling stock, machines, machinery, rails and other material resources.

It should be noted that the technical standards of rolling stock and machinery fails to meet contemporary requirements in a number of instances. For instance, certain locomotives. Indeed, in just 1977 alone, complaints concerning diesel locomotives increased by 50 percent, and complaints against electric locomotives doubled.

The freightcar manufacturers are also letting us down. They are not providing enough four-axle freightcars and tank cars. The rolling stock we are nor receiving fails to insure the safekeeping of freight, particularly grain, mineral fertilizers, coal and ore. Production of freightcars with roller bearings is being increased extremely slowly.

Only 60-65 percent of our new rail requirement is being met. Because of this, the length of track with speed limits has increased. The USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy supplies few heat-treated rails, whose operational life is 2 or 3 times greater. It must be taken into account that the traffic density on a number of main lines is so great that it is necessary to replace the rails completely every 4 or 5 years.

Industry is being very slow to start up series production of the main types of loading and unloading machines, electric loaders for work inside freightcars, gantry cranes, body cleaning units, automatic packaging machines and devices for tying down items of nonbulk frieght.

The organizations of the Ministry of Transportation Construction are faced with great tasks. It is on them that the acceleration of the pace of work connected with developing the railroads' traffic and carrying capacities and eliminating "bottlenecks" depends.

In the last few years major sociocultural construction measures have been implemented in railroad transportation, wages have increased considerably and the qualifications, skill and creative activeness of cadres are increasing constantly. The CPSU Central Committee has rated highly and approved the initiative of a number of our collectives that have set examples in fulfilling the plans. The work of the Solvychegodsk locomotive depot on the Northern Railroad has received such an assessment. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, cordially congratulated this collective on its successes in socialist competition. The transportation workers of Leningrad and Odessa have accumulated great experiences in work collaboration.

At the recent examination of the questions of developing transportation at the conference in the CPSU Central Committee, a clear work program was determined for us, and railroad workers will do everything possible to implement it. The collectives of the steel highways have adopted intensive counterplans and socialist pledges for the third year of the 5-year plan. These are aimed at overfulfilling the shipments target and raising the efficiency and quality of all work.

BREZHNEV PRESENTS AWARDS TO SALYUT-6 COSMONAUTS

LD111130Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] USSR decorations have been awarded to the heroes of the space epic. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented high awards of the Soviet Union to the participants in the 96-day heroic space epic in the Kremlin today. Orders of Lenin and Hero of the Soviet Union Gold Star medals were awarded to the USSR pilot-cosmonauts of the orbital scientific research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz--Romanenko, Grechko, Dzhanibekov, Makarov, and Gubarev--and Czech cosmonaut-researcher Remek.

At the awards presentation, Comrade Brezhnev delivered a speech. He said: [read by announcer]

Dear comrades and friends: We are celebrating a big space day today, so to speak. The Soviet Union is marking the services of the participants in one of the outstanding stages of man's mastering of space. What was done over a period of almost 100 days from the end of 1977 to March 1978 is a real feat--a feat of science, technology, organization, but above all, a purely human feat. Thanks to an entire system of measures carefully prepared and implemented with great skill, courage and valor, mankind has taken a new remarkable step toward comprehending the secrets of the universe and subordinating them to the will and the reason of people. This step will remain forever in history as will the names of the participants in this feat. We are proud of the fact that the heroes of this new space epic are Soviet people and a citizen of fraternal socialist Czechoslovakia.

I have performed with great satisfaction the instructions of CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and have presented awards to the space heroes: Soviet cosmonauts comrades Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko, Vladimir Dzhanibekov, Oleg Makarov, Aleksey Gubarev, and Czechoslovak cosmonaut Comrade Vladimir Remek.

It is difficult to overestimate what was achieved during the manned flight of the scientific research orbital complex. With their 96-day flight, comrades Romanenko and Grechko surpassed the world record for a continuous stay in space. Two spacecraft docked to an orbiting station is also unprecedented in the history of cosmonautics; and for the first time as well an automatic envoy from earth arrived at the orbital station--a cargo ship, with new reserves of fuel, materials, instruments, and even with the latest mail.

All this for the first time, which means that everything was particularly complicated, particularly crucial. Everything was done excellently--the flight, the dockings, and the implementation of an extensive program of important scientific and technical research. The schooling and courage of the cosmonauts, the selfless labor of those who prepared the flights and insured the accurate and reliable work of the sophisticated space research complex has yielded results. A new major contribution has been made to implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress on the development of research into and the utilization of outer space for peaceful purposes. Here are the awards that have been earned:

For the successful accomplishment of the lengthy flight on board the orbital Salyut-6-Soyuz complex and for the fortitude and heroism they displayed, our long-livers in space have been honored with high awards: Comrade Yuriy Viktoravich Romanenko has been awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union; and USSR Pilot-Cosmonaut Georgiy Mikhaylovich Grechko has been presented with the Order of Lenin and a second Gold Star medal.

For the excellent fulfillment of the flight on the Salyut-6-Soyuz complex and the implementation of an extensive program of experiments, Comrade Vladimir Aleksandrovich Dzhanibekov has been awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union, and USSR Pilot-Cosmonaut Oleg Grigoryevich Makarov has been presented with the Order of Lenin and a second Gold Star medal.

I heartily congratulate you, dear comrades, on your outstanding achievements and wish you fresh successes in the world for the further exploration of space which is very important for the country and for mankind as a whole.

Comrades, the flight of the Salyut-6-Soyuz complex also laid the basis for a fundamentally new stage in man's work in space. For the first time a spaceflight by an international crew has taken place. The many years of joint study and exploration of space by scientists of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries has now been supplemented by joint flights in space. This, as is known, is only the beginning. It will be continued. The fraternal friendship and cooperation of the socialist community countries has surpassed the bounds of earth and traveled into the wide-open spaces of the universe. We are pleased with this, and proud of it.

The feat of the members of the international space crew has won high appraisal. For successfully carrying out the spaceflight on the orbital scientific research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz, Comrade Aleksey Aleksandrovich Gubarev has been awarded the Order of Lenin and a second gold star medal; and Comrade Vladimir Remek has been awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union. I congratulate you, dear pioneers of the international conquest of space, on your lofty awards. I am sure that your initiative will be developed in a worthy fashion to the glory of the great socialist community. Dear Comrades Romanenko, Grechko, Dzhanibekov, Makarov, Gubarev and Remek, the supreme awards of our homeland which you have received are a just assessment of your selfless labor in space orbit and a recognition of your great services to science and to our fraternal peoples. We are sure that you will continue to tirelessly perfect your knowledge and experience and will always be ready to fulfill the tasks of the homeland in the study and use of space in the name of peace and progress on earth. From the bottom of my heart I wish you, dear comrades, good health, happiness and great new successes in your difficult work.

Cosmonauts Thank Brezhnev for Award

LD111252Y Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, April 11 TASS--General secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev presented today in the Kremlin Soviet awards to participants in the 96-day heroic space flight.

On behalf of the cosmonauts, Yuriy Romanenko expressed heart-felt gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for trust, for high awards and assessment of the activity of the participants in the flight on board the space research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz.

"The longest space flight, he said, has been successfully implemented due to the fact that we were constantly aware of the fatherly concern of the CPSU Central Committee, of the support from our Soviet people and from you personally, Dear Leonid Ilich".

Vladimir Remek said in his speech: "The very participation in this international space flight was a great award for my motherland, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and for myself personally. I am deeply grateful for the high award, for trust that was accorded me by the Communist Party, by the Central Committee of the CPSU, by the Soviet Government and you personally, Dear Leonid Ilich." Vladimir Remek said he will do everything in his power for consolidation of friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The cosmonauts who were decorated expressed cordial gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Government and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for high assessment of their work. They said they will devote all their energy, knowledge and experience to the cause of further exploration and use of outer space for the sake of peace and progress, will continue promoting widening and consolidation of cooperation of countries of the socialist community. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1030 GMT on 11 April carries a report on the Kremlin award ceremony which adds the following: "Present at the award ceremony were Chernenko, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Aleksandrov, assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and Lieutenant General of Aviation Beregovoy, head of the Gagarin Cosmonauts' Training Center."]

PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON SALYUT-6 SPACE MISSION

LD111612Y Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 11, TASS--The longest ever space expedition which was held aboard the orbital station Salyut-6 (96 days) and which was concluded successfully in March, marked an important stage in the further development of space research.

A press conference on the results of this space epogee was held here today.

Academician Boris Petrov, chairman of the Intercosmos Council, said here that a new stage in the development of world astronautics was started with the establishment of this complex. The Salyut-6 represents a spacecraft of a more advanced generation as compared with the previous orbital stations. It has two docking assemblies and can receive simultaneously two spaceships.

Academician Oleg (Gaishin), [word indistinct] space medicine, said that one important result of the flight of the basic Salyut-6-Soyuz crew was that the cosmonauts felt fine in orbit, retained sufficient capacity for work and successfully accomplished the flight program. The post-flight examination of the crew members has not detected so far any changes radically differing from those which were known earlier. The cosmonauts felt an increase in the weight of their own bodies and things with which they had to deal. During their first days on earth the cosmonauts could keep erect with an effort and felt better in lying position. The weight of the body of every one of them immediately after the flight was reduced approximately by 5 kg, he said.

The commander of the basic crew of the expedition, Yuriy Romanenko, said specifically that the most memorable event in the 96 days in outer space was the work of an international crew, consisting of Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek of Czechoslovakia, aboard the station Salyut-6.

Cosmonaut Georgiy Grechko stressed that the flight program of the basic expedition included investigations and experiments involving space equipment, astrophysics, space technology, medicine and biology. A wide range of questions were solved during technical experiments; the testing of a new design of a space suit, checking of the docking performance of the second ship that linked up with the station, and the flight of the complex consisting of one station and two ships.

The floor was then taken by Cosmonaut Vladimir Remek. "I, a citizen of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic", he said, "was honored to be a member of an international crew and to make a space flight aboard the Soviet ship Soyuz-28 and the orbital scientific research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28." Vladimir Remek said "the blast-off, the first sensation of weightlessness and the first glance at my dear Czechoslovakia from orbit, the docking with the Salyut-6 station and the meeting with friends--all this merged into one beautiful moment."

The Czechoslovak cosmonaut described the space flight as a major event in cooperation between the socialist countries, as a new stage in the exploration of outer space. "The joining of effort by different countries in the exploration of outer space is quite natural and necessary. It is noteworthy that the socialist countries were the first to begin a new stage in space integration".

Further Report

LD111812Y Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 11 TASS--The longest ever expedition held on board the orbital station Salyut-6, which was completed in March 1978, has been an important stage on the way of further development of cosmonautics. A press-conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen on the results of this illustrious outer space epic was held in the Assembly Hall of Moscow University on the Lenin Hills today.

Opening the press-conference, head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry V.N. Sofinskiy congratulated on behalf of those present the cosmonauts of the orbital scientific-research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz with the significant event--the presentation of the orders of Lenin and Gold Star medals of heroes of the Soviet Union, the supreme awards of the land of the soviets, to participants in the space epic by general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in the Kremlin today.

Contemporary science and development of national economy, said Academician B. Petrov, chairman of the Intercosmos Council of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, call for an increasingly wider use of outer space equipment. "Soviet science regards the creation of orbital stations with replaceable crews as man's main road to outer space," as was pointed out by general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. The development and successful functioning in orbit of the new scientific orbital complex on the basis of Salyut-6 is the best illustration of the fact that Soviet cosmonautics is confidently advancing along this road. The creation of the complex has opened a new chapter in space exploration, a new stage in the development of world cosmonautics. The Salyut-6 station is a space craft of the next generation compared with the preceding orbital stations. It has two docking units and makes it possible to receive two spaceships simultaneously.

An important task has been resolved by the creation of the transport cargo craft Progress-1.

The Salyut-6 is a multi-purpose scientific laboratory permitting a wide-range of experiments and observations in the basic lines of space research in the conditions of an orbital flight. These are investigations involving space physics, extra-atmospheric astronomy, study of earth's natural resources in the interests of the national economy, experiments in space technology and scientific and technical experiments.

All the participants in the just completed space odyssey--five Soviet cosmonauts and one Czechoslovak cosmonaut--a pioneer of international flights by socialist countries--coped well with a complex space program, accomplished a large amount of scientific experiments and well deserved high awards and warm words of greetings from the leaders of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko, the basic crew of the orbital station, did a great amount of work. They carried out an extensive research program, both independently and together with the visiting crews--V. Dzhanibekov and O. Makarov, A. Gubarev and V. Remek--who made up one scientific collective of space researchers, close-knit personnel of an orbital laboratory.

The successful accomplishment of a complex space flight, during which four dockings of transport ships with the orbital station Salyut-6 were accomplished in orbit in as few as three months, was made possible by the intensive creative work of thousands of people who had built sophisticated space equipment, and ensured the launching of the orbital station and the spaceships and control of their flight, by the heroic work of the cosmonauts that crowned the work of many labour collectives.

From the medical point of view, the most important result of the flight of the basic crew of the orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz, said Academician Gazenko, a prominent Soviet specialist in space medicine and biology, was that the cosmonauts in orbit retained sufficient capacity for work and successfully carried out their mission. All experiments and observations were carried out by the crew with unflagging interest and even with inspiration till the last day of the flight.

The post-flight examination, which was broadened through the inclusion of a number of new methods (supersonic sounding of the heart, a large spectrum of biological and hematological studies) has so far detected no changes differing radically from those known before.

On the whole, vast scientific date has been obtained. It is of great significance both for a better understanding of man's reactions to outer space flight and for a further perfection of the methods of medical control.

Then a statement was made by commander of the main crew of the expedition, Pilot-Cosmonaut of the USSR Yu. Romanenko.

Preparing for carrying out this longest ever work effort in outer space, he said, we took into account the experience of all the long flights made earlier by Soviet and American cosmonauts.

The most memorable event in the 96 days of the flight was work on board the Salyut-6 station of the first international crew including A. Gubarev and V. Remek.

The whole of our work on board the Salyut-6 station, Yu. Romanenko said, would be impossible without the vast amount of work put up by a large personnel of scientists, engineers and workers, who created such a perfect and reliable vehicle, without efficient and well coordinated work of the Gagarin Centre for the Training of Cosmonauts, which prepared us for the flight, the Cosmodrome, the Flight Control Centre, the command--measurement and search-and-rescue complexes supporting our flight. We are expressing our profound gratitude to all of them.

Pilot-Cosmonaut of the USSR G. Grechko devoted his address to the programme of scientific research, which was done on board the orbital space complex. Thus, in particular the geophysical experiments, which were carried out on board Salyut-6 including observations of the earth's surface, of the atmosphere and the near earth space.

These experiments were performed in the interests of various fields of science and the national economy, such as geology, geography, oceanology, agriculture and forestry. The processing of the photos taken in orbit is being completed. Some very interesting results have been obtained concerning polar lights. In our opinion, G. Grechko said, they are interlinked somehow with liminous clouds.

The floor was then taken by Czechoslovak Pilot Cosmonaut V. Remek. I, as a citizen of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, he said, was honoured to be a member of the first international space crew and to make a flight aboard the Soviet spaceship Soyuz-28 and the orbital research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28.

I should like to thank all specialists who helped me prepare for the flight, study many theoretical disciplines and sophisticated space equipment. I am glad to have met Aleksey Gubarev who shared his rich experience with me.

The blast-off, the first sensation of weightlessness, the first glance at my dear Czechoslovakia from orbit, the docking with the Salyut-6 station and the meeting with friends--all this merged into one beautiful moment, Remek said. The first steps on earth after landing were a unique sensation incomparable with anything. The feet feel heavy, you step along cautiously and the earth seems dearer to you than it was before the flight.

The Czechoslovak cosmonaut described the flight as a major event in relations between the socialist countries, a new stage in the exploration of outer space. The joining of effort by many countries in the exploration of outer space is quite natural and necessary, he said. It is noteworthy that the socialist countries were the first to begin a new stage in space integration.

Then scientists, designers and the cosmonauts answered numerous questions by pressmen.

USTINOV ISSUES ORDER OF DAY FOR AIR DEFENSE FORCES' DAY

LD120915Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of USSR defense minister's Order of the Day No 95: "Congratulations, Defenders of the Air Borders"]

[Text] Moscow, 9 April--Comrade soldiers and sailors, sergeants and petty officers!

Comrade ensigns and warrant officers!

Comrade officers, generals and admirals!

Comrade workers of the defense industry!

Comrade veterans of the country's air defense forces!

Today our people and their armed forces are celebrating Air Defense Forces' Day.

The Soviet people are marking the services of the glorious Air Defense Forces, who made a worthy contribution to securing victory over the enemies of the motherland in the years of the Civil and Great Patriotic wars, are honoring the defenders of our fatherland's air borders and are paying due tribute to the workers of the defense industry, who provide the country's Air Defense Forces with modern weapons and military equipment.

The servicemen of the country's Air Defense Forces, closely rallied around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee led by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, with the entire Soviet people, ardently approve and unanimously support the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy. In response to the greetings of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers in connection with the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, they are now improving their political and military knowledge even more persistently, are skillfully mastering combat equipment and weapons and are defending the gains of Great October in united combat formation with the troops of the other branches of the USSR Armed Forces.

I greet and congratulate you on this occasion--the day of the country's Air Defense Forces!

I wish the personnel of the country's Air Defense Forces further successes in raising vigilance and combat readiness, in combat and political training and strengthening military discipline and in fulfilling the tasks set for the Soviet Armed Forces by the 25th CPSU Congress.

I wish the workers of the defense industry new achievements in creating first-class weapons and combat equipment for the country's Air Defense Forces.

To mark the day of the country's Air Defense Forces, I order:

Today, 9 April at 2100 hours local time festive firework displays will be held in our motherland's capital--the Hero-city of Moscow, in the capitals of the union republics, in the Hero-cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Sevastopol, Odessa, Novorossiysk, Kerch and Tula, and in the Hero-fortress of Brest.

Long live our great motherland--the USSR!

Long live the heroic USSR Armed Forces and their brilliant Air Defense Forces!

Glory to the CPSU--the inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense.

Moscow Ceremony

LD111259Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 78 p 1 LD

["Our correspondent" report: "In Honor of the Country's Air Defense Forces' Day"]

[Text] A ceremony devoted to the country's Air Defense Forces' Day was held 7 April in the Soviet Army's Central Academy Theater. Representatives of the working people of the hero city of Moscow, soldiers of the capital's garrison and veterans of the country's Air Defense Forces met there.

The Presidium included: USSR Minister E.K. Peryvyshin; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy; Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov; and Army generals S.K. Kurkotkin and A.T. Altunin, USSR deputy defense ministers; Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, first deputy commander in chief of the country's Air Defense Forces; V.A. Lepeshkin, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; Vice Adm A.I. Sorokin, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Col Gen S.A. Bobylev, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the country's Air Defense Forces; Col Gen V.D. Sozinov, chief of the main staff of the country's Air Defense Forces; Army generals, marshals of categories of troops, generals, admirals, officers, defense industry personnel, designers and representatives of Moscow's party, soviet and social organizations.

The ceremony was opened by Moscow Gorkom Secretary V.P. Trushin.

An honorary presidum of the meeting comprised of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was unanimously elected.

P.P. Pchelintsev, electrician in Moscow's punchcard tabulator plant and shock worker of communist labor, and V.V. Grigoryev, secretary of the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee, delivered greetings message to the soldiers of the country's air defense.

Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, first deputy commander in chief of the country's Air Defense Forces, spoke at the meeting.

A generation which has inherited glorious combat traditions and which is creatively mastering the experience of the Great Patriotic War and of combat duty in peacetime is serving in the Air Defense forces today, he said. The country's Air Defense Forces have wonderful cadres of commanders and political workers capable of insuring coordinated and efficient service by troops in any situation. They are genuine organizers of the training and education of their subordinates.

The participants in the ceremony adopted with great enthusiasm a greetings letter to the CPSU Central Committee and to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

A festive concert was held after the ceremony.

Chief of Staff Interviewed

LD120931Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Interview with Col Gen V. Sozinov, chief of the Air Defense Forces Main Staff: "Sentinels of the Peaceful Sky"]

[Excerpts] The people affectionately call the servicemen of our Air Defense Forces the sentinels of the Soviet sky. They ceaselessly watch over the inviolability of our motherland's air borders and are always alert and ready for combat.

[Question] Please briefly describe the combat might of the country's Air Defense Forces, their main component units and the role of their troop categories.

[Answer] The country's Air Defense Forces are one of the branches of the Soviet Armed Forces. They are designed to defend the motherland's population, its political, administrative, economic and cultural centers and military installations and our troops from an air attack.

The combat might of our forces, as indeed of other branches of the armed forces, is determined by many factors: level of technical equipment, military training, the moral and political, psychological and physical tempering of the personnel, the availability of command cadres who have mastered to perfection the military art and the skills of troop control, and by the level of development of military science.

Thanks to the tireless concern of the party and Soviet Government and the selfless labor of the entire people the country's Air Defense Forces are armed with the most modern weapons. The tactical technical specifications of our missile complexes, fighter aircraft and radar stations insure the timely detection, secure tracking and the destruction of any aerial targets irrespective of the speed and altitude of their flight or meteorological or other circumstances. People are the golden fount of our forces, the basis of their combat might--remarkable officers, sergeants and soldiers.

[Question] In the Army there is the concept of "constant combat readiness." What does this term mean for the country's Air Defense Forces? How is this readiness effected in practice? How in general does the combat drill and service of the Air Defense Forces proceed?

[Answer] To be in constant combat readiness guaranteeing the immediate repulse of any aggressor and to reliably defend the socialist fatherland--these are the demands of the 25th CPSU Congress and the constitututional duty of the USSR Armed Forces. The Air Defense Forces have a special place in the defense of our state. These are the forces of the frontline of defense. In peacetime they are charged with fulfilling a task of particular state significance--to perform combat duty. They must be ready at any moment to rebuff a sudden strike by a strong, technically well-equipped, insidious enemy.

The constant combat readiness of the forces is a forced measure. The demand for it has grown immeasurably in modern conditions. It is necessitated by the increased aggressive aspirations of imperialism and by the quantitative and qualitative changes which have occurred in the development of NATO's means of launching an air attack. The imperialist countries are modernizing existing and developing new means of air attack, including air-to-surface missiles and various kinds of cruise missiles. Modern means of air attack possess tremendous speeds--up to 3,000 km per hour and more--can fly at different altitudes--from a few dozen meters to tens of kilometers--and are provided with equipment to defeat air defense systems. All this forces us to show constant concern for raising the troops' combat readiness.

Implicit in the constant combat readiness of the country's Air Defense Forces is a standard of personnel combat training, discipline and organization, a standard of military equipment status and a daily routine of subunits and units, which allows them to go into combat in the minimum time and to fulfill their set combat task in the most difficult circumstances. We must show special vigilance and be ready for any eventuality.

Our servicemen are entrusted with the most modern and formidable weapons--antiaircraft missiles, supersonic interceptor fighters, radar equipment, communications facilities and automated control systems. In order to make full use of the combat potential of this complex hardware, the excellent training of all specialists, without exception, and irreproachable execution and coordination in action are needed. Combat skill is made up of big and small military deeds, and is daily forged in intensive training, in studies and classes, on tactical exercises and ranges, during practice firing and on combat duty.

In insuring the fulfillment of a combat task any indulgences and oversimplifications are unacceptable. That is why the efforts of commanders, staffs and political organizers are focused on cultivating in servicemen high ideological conviction and revolutionary vigilance and inculcating in them the necessary moral and combat qualities and a feeling of personal responsibility for the unconditional fulfillment of combat tasks.

[Question] Please describe, if possible, cases of air defense servicemen halting attempts by foreign aircraft to violate our motherland's airspace.

[Answer] Unfortunately there are still cases of uninvited "air guests" trying to violate our borders. Air defense servicemen have more than once shown high vigilance and combat skill in carrying out combat duty. The case which occurred in May 1960 is well known, when an antiaircraft missile division under the command of officer M. Vorobyov brought down a plane which was violating the USSR's state border. It must be said that the ignominious end of the aerial spy removed the desire of uninvited "guests" to violate the Soviet Union's airspace for a long time.

Air defense servicemen V. Korolev and A. Sadovoy were granted government awards for skillful and precise actions in defending the USSR's air border and the self-control and high degree of skill shown in so doing, and V. Kladov, V. Sesnev, A. Uryukov and others were rewarded by the command.

These examples testify: Although the Soviet Union's air border is large, stretching for more than 60,000 km, air defense servicemen perform their duty vigilantly and watch attentively over the inviolability of our borders.

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